

AND

Page 3

Scene magazine

Page 3

© SS 2004

1

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2004

平成22年4月9日 第三種郵便物認可

41400L1P2122618-10

\$1.00

Yokosuka one of three trial sites for khaki-based all-year garb

Page 3

Pentagon dinner honors troops on mend from wounds suffered in war on terror **Page 7**

from wounds suffered in war on terror **Page 7**

PHOTOS BY JOE GROMELSKI/Stars and Stripes

Above: Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz has dinner with wounded servicemembers Thursday night in the Pentagon. Dining with Wolfowitz is, left, Army National Guard Capt. Troy O'Donley, commander of the 1544th Transportation Company based in Paris, Ill., and Guard 1st Lt. Ed Salas, assigned to the 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry, 30th Brigade in Lubertown, N.C. Right: Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks with Spc. Chad Johnson of the Fort Hood, Texas-based 1st Cavalry Division. Johnson lost his leg in an improvised explosive device blast on Sept. 20 in Iraq.

■ Medical technology advances keep more casualties from becoming fatalities Page 8

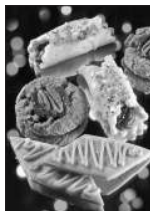
STARS & STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

COMING
SOON



Scene on Sunday

Up close with
Natalie Portman



Scene on Sunday

Holiday cookies
hit sweet spot

Don't miss a
single issue.

For home delivery, call DSN
225-4505 (Japan)
721-7140 (Korea)
645-2010 (Okinawa)

TODAY IN STRIPES

Abby, Annie's Mailbox.....28
American Roundup24-25
Classified33-37
ComicsStripes Comics
CrosswordScene
Horoscope28
Opinion22-23
Parade29
Religion20-21
Sports39-48
TV listings30
Weather38
Your Money27

News Tracker ... What's new with old news

World

Ukraine election turmoil: Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko promised Friday to prosecute government officials and their supporters for crimes committed during the last decade should he win Ukraine's Dec. 26 rerun of the presidential election.

Yushchenko faces Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich in the repeat of the Nov. 21 vote. The Supreme Court threw out Yanukovich's victory in that runoff, saying it was invalidated by fraud.

Meanwhile, Yanukovich accused his rival of an unfair election campaign and said his camp would retaliate.

Looking tired and defensive, Yanukovich said Yushchenko's allies had tried to intimidate his supporters in western Ukraine, and that in reshuffling the Central Election Commission they left him without a single representative.

"The vote results won't be fair," Yanukovich said.

Oil-for-food scandal: U.N. diplomats say they are concerned that calls for Secretary-General Kofi Annan's resignation and allegations of widespread corruption in the U.N. oil-for-food program in Iraq could derail plans for a sweeping reform of the United Nations.

When a blue ribbon panel, after a year's work, released a report last week on how the world body should tackle wars, terrorism, nuclear proliferation and other threats, the spotlight should have been on its 101 recommendations, officials say.

Instead, the report was eclipsed by headlines that Sen. Norm Coleman, a Minnesota Republican, was calling for Annan's resignation over the oil-for-food allegations.



Annan

U.N. war crimes tribunal: A human rights group in Bosnia-Herzegovina said Friday that an offer by the Bosnian Serb government to pay special welfare benefits to war crimes suspects who surrender to the U.N. war crimes tribunal is immoral.

The government announced this week that fugitives who turn themselves in by Dec. 31 would qualify for monthly payments while they are on trial or serving prison terms, as will their families.

Family members would get two free



Coast Guard rescue attempt: The wreckage of a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter was swept ashore on the eastern part of Skan Bay near Unalaska, Alaska, on Thursday. Frustrated by furious winds, mountainous seas and a mere five-hour window of December daylight, rescuers searched for six people lost in the Bering Sea after the helicopter that had plucked them from the crippled freighter Selendang Ayu crashed in the darkness. A major fuel spill from the grounded freighter threatens sensitive wildlife habitats in the Aleutian Islands, but finding the lost crewmembers remains a priority, officials said.

trips a year to the Hague, Netherlands, where the court is based.

"It is absolutely scandalous and immoral that Serb authorities are using taxpayers' money to compensate their incompetence and inability to arrest war crimes suspects," said Branko Todorovic of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, a Vienna-based rights watchdog.

States

Church abuse allegations: An association representing 75,000 Roman Catholic nuns has rejected a proposal from a victims advocacy group designed to encourage people who were sexually molested by nuns to come forward and get help.

The proposal was presented to officials of the Silver Spring, Md.-based Leadership Conference of Women Religious, an umbrella group of women's religious orders, by representatives of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests when the two sides met privately in Chicago on Oct. 3.

Conference officials responded to the group's efforts had heightened "our awareness of the long-term effects of sexual misconduct

by women religious." But, the officials wrote, they could not "meet their specific requests in the manner ... indicated."

Experimental flu vaccine: A European-produced flu vaccine widely used in other countries will be tested at four locations in the United States, the government announced.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease is launching the trial in an effort to increase the supply of flu vaccine in this country.

The United States is millions of doses short on flu vaccine this year because of manufacturing problems at a major producer of the vaccine.

NIAID said Thursday it hopes to enroll 1,000 healthy adults in the new tests by Dec. 23 in Rochester, N.Y., Cincinnati, Baltimore and Houston.

While more than 126 million doses of the test vaccine, Fluarix, have been distributed in more than 70 countries worldwide, Fluarix has never been tested or licensed for use in the United States. It is made by GlaxoSmithKline PLC's subsidiary GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals of Rixensart, Belgium.

Stories and photo from wire services

Bld. 327 Yujo Community Center Yokota A.B. Japan

Suzuki's Café

COFFEE
ESPRESSO
TEA
SODAS & JUICES
WINE & BEER

1993
YOKOTA

SALADS
PASTA
SANDWICHES
SOUP
PASTRY

For more information call : 225-9888
www.suzuki-s.com

Sho-Ichiban
Oriental Restaurant

Bld. 4330 East Side Yokota A.B. Japan

Free Soda
at Suzuki's Café & Sho-Ichiban

with any order of
\$5.00 or more.

*1 free soda,
per person,
per coupon,
per visit with qualified purchase.

Only dinner time
from 5-9.

so hurry!

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL
expires 12/18/04

Navy tests new uniforms for lower enlisted

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTTA, Spain — The Navy is trying out new service uniform styles for lower enlisted sailors that are designed to be more comfortable and worn year round.

The plan is to find one uniform to replace the summer white, winter blue and tropical uniforms.

The Navy unveiled the new designs Wednesday at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. Service uniforms are typically worn at office work spaces at shore bases and commands.

The concepts come in two types: gray or khaki shirts with Navy blue pants or skirts. The prototype with the gray shirt and blue slacks looks slightly like the Air Force's service uniform. The khaki version looks a lot like the Marine Corps uniform.

The new designs attracted mixed reviews from sailors.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Lenore Gregory, a storekeeper at Naval Station Rota, likes having a year-round uniform but thought the khaki style looked too much like the officer or chief petty officer uniform.

"Oh my goodness," she said, when she saw the khaki version in a picture. "That's disgusting. That's not good at all. We know

by the collar devices and the uniforms who's a chief and who's not a chief. That kind of separated us. ... They couldn't be 'khakis' any more because there's no distinction."

Petty Officer 2nd Class Angel Ortiz, a reservist with the base security department, also preferred the gray shirt and Navy slacks.

"They're going to say you're a chief or an officer," Ortiz said of the khaki shirt. "But they do look better."

About 350 sailors at commands across the globe will test-wear the uniforms this winter. Overseas locations include Naples, Italy, and Yokosuka, Japan.

The prototypes include several options, including sewn-in creases versus pressed creases, and two styles of garrison caps.

For females, the pants and the skirts do not need a belt. The blouse for the females is meant to be untucked and extend over the top of the slacks.

Both shirts will be tested in wool or polyester fabrics for comfort.

After the six-month testing phase, the Navy will collect feedback surveys and hand them to the chief of naval operations. If he decides to change the uniform, the Navy will begin phasing in the new uniform within 18 to 24 months.

A Navy task force conducted more than 40,000 surveys to find out what types of



styles sailors would like and what changes they would like to see made to the current uniforms. The group came up with the designs based on that input.

Surveys found that lower-ranking sailors, those in pay rates E-6 and below, were

the least satisfied with their uniforms. They especially disliked the summer white uniforms because they got so dirty, the Navy said.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at: schonauer@mail.strips.esd.mil

Yokota opens revamped air passenger terminal

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — The Air Mobility Command's passenger terminal is back in its permanent spot following a \$1.7 million renovation project that began in late February.

A Tokyo contractor removed all asbestos that couldn't be crushed, rewired electrical components and made some minor structural changes in Building 80, just inside the terminal gate. Workers also constructed a secondary retaining wall outside the facility to elevate security.

For the past 10 months, the AMC terminal was operated out of Building 1213, the old base exchange on Yokota's west side. That now will be converted into a new bowling center, slated to open in January 2006.

The changeover was completed last Sunday night, when officials closed the temporary site and relocated across the street the next morning.

"We've still got some scattered items over there. Otherwise, it's completely closed," said Capt. Jim Hearn, the 730th Air Mobility Squadron's aerial port flight commander, who's in charge of Yokota's passenger and freight terminals.

"There's just some small office stuff that needs to be moved. All of our customer-service stuff is already over here."

"We've had great support from everybody. It's been relatively painless so far."

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service restaurant, which received a divider wall during the overhaul, will open Wednesday at 4:30 a.m.

The terminal's redesigned entrance area — now partially enclosed to keep passengers out of the elements — should provide easier access to the cafe-

teria because the security X-ray machine has been shifted to the gated section in the back, Hearn said.

"People are free to come and go for the AAFES cafeteria. Before, they had to go through the machines to get inside the terminal," he said. "There's no longer a single point of entry, so they'll get more business."

"If we have to go to higher force-protection levels, we can move the X-ray machine out to the entrance," Hearn added. "With the facility upgrades, we have the ability to expand security and force-protection measures at any time."

Other amenities include a distinguished-visitor lounge, slightly expanded children's play area, vending machines in the gated area that dispense hot food, new baggage carts and a family room with lounge chairs, video games, TVs, books and magazines. Hearn said the business center — complete with Internet access, mailbox, phone cards and fax machine — should be fully functional within the next two months.

Over that same span, AMC officials also will purchase replacement televisions, flat-screen monitors to display flight information and more toys for the kids' room.

The building now features larger, more modernized bathrooms to better accommodate the 350 people who routinely pass through Yokota on Patriot Express missions.

The newly built force-protection barrier outside negates the need for a standoff area in the parking lot — a requirement under AMC terminal security standards — so workers partially redesigned the lot to open up 20 additional spaces.

"The building is much more aesthetically pleasing," Hearn said, "but we're providing the same level of service we



Airman 1st Class Brian Bicham of the 730th Aviation Maintenance Squadron checks the ticketing computer for hugs Tuesday at the newly renovated passenger terminal on Yokota Air Base, Japan.

did before, both in the temporary location and over here."

Still, he conceded, the tempo should be considerably less hectic for AMC personnel now that they're back in the home building, particularly on week-ends, when the Patriot Express makes two flights. During the renovation, each flight required eight to 10 bus trips across Highway 16 to get travelers onto the plane.

"I'm real proud of our guys," Hearn said. "They adapted to operations over there really well. I expected them to do well, but they exceeded all expectations."

Yokota's AMC terminal is a central hub for the Kanto Plain, handling about 9,000 passengers a month. That figure can climb as high as 13,000 during the peak summer travel months.

E-mail Vince Little at: littlevp@strips.esd.mil

300 airmen at Yokota set to deploy in Jan.

BY VINCE LITTLE

Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — About 300 troops from the 374th Airlift Wing will deploy throughout Southwest Asia next month in support of the global war on terrorism.

Yokota officials declined to specify when, saying only that they'll be sent at different stages in January. Personnel from several squadrons and agencies are among them, including civil engineer, communications, mission support, wing staff, medical, logistic readiness, maintenance, aircraft maintenance, operational support, air postal, comptroller, weather, security forces, contracting and services.

It's part of a scheduled Air Force Aerospace Expeditionary Force rotation cycle. Yokota is in the first and second phases of the cycle, said 1st Lt. Warren Comer, a 374th Airlift Wing spokesman, with the upcoming round representing AEF 3 and 4. This summer, due to greater demands on the Air Force since Sept. 11, 2001, deployment lengths for most airmen were increased from 90 days to 120 in a policy change issued by Gen. John F. Jumper, the service's chief of staff.

The AEF cycle also moved from 15 months to 20 months — meaning airmen will be eligible to deploy for four months and then have a 16-month training cycle. Servicemen are expected to rotate once during the cycle, although some airmen in stressed specialties, such as security forces and pararescue, may face longer stints.

Each deployment is significant and unique, said Col. Mark Schissler, the 374th Airlift Wing commander, who praised the contributions of Yokota airmen in the war on terror.

"Every American that puts their life in danger for the cause of freedom is a true hero in my book," he said. "I am surrounded by people like that every day. The war is becoming a safer place because of their willingness to serve, even in harm's way."

"The war on terror is one that we have to finish in our generation, we cannot and will not pass this burden on to our children and grandchildren. They deserve to inherit a world free of terror and fear, where peace can grow and people can pursue their dreams."

E-mail Vince Little at: littlevp@strips.esd.mil

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

Troops protected from weak dollar

DOD committee follows formula to make adjustments to COLA, OHA

Despite a three-month drop in the value of the dollar against foreign currencies, the buying power of 290,000 servicemembers overseas largely has been protected by a system of allowances that are tied directly to exchange rates, say Department of Defense officials.

A weakening dollar can squeeze travel budgets for American tourists and raise the cost of imported goods, a setback for many U.S. businesses. But the Defense Department's Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee in Alexandria, Va., is there to insulate U.S. servicemembers overseas from currency fluctuations.

"We are looking at them constantly and making adjustments as warranted," said Roy Sammarco, chief of the committee's economics and statistics branch.

The "adjustments" to protect the military from a weak dollar include two payments available overseas: a Cost-of-Living Allowance for all and, for members and families living off base, an Overseas Housing Allowance.

The committee daily collects exchange-rate data from banks that serve U.S. military abroad. In countries where few servicemembers are assigned, the committee tracks daily currency rates through the Wall Street Journal.

When there is a 5 percent change in the dollar's value, up or down, the two allowances are adjusted on the next payday, either the 1st or 16th of the month. The system cannot make daily changes, said Sammarco, and indeed needs a week's lead time to make sure the paying channels are

So, if by the 9th of the month the value of the dollar has changed 5 percent or more, servicemembers will see a change to overseas allowances in midnight paychecks. Similarly, a change of 5 percent or more by the 23rd of the month will impact the following first-of-the-month payday.

That 5 percent threshold must be met on the review day," said

Sammarco. "If not, we don't make a change. We wait until the next pay period to see whether that threshold is crossed or not."

One weakness of this "accumulator" method of adjusting allowances is the time lag responding to currency fluctuations. To compensate for the lag, Sammarco said, as allowances are raised, the committee will set them a little higher than the review-day currency rate. Likewise, when allowances are reduced, they will be lowered a little more than currency data supports.

"Over time, it balances out," he said.

From Sept. 1 to Dec. 1, the dollar's value fell 9 percent against the euro and 7 percent against the Japanese yen. Allowances rose to keep pace, Sammarco said. In Germany, for example, members saw four allowance adjustments over three months and are likely to see another in Dec. 16 paychecks.

Susan Brumbaugh, chief of the committee's COLA section, said servicemembers should understand that the currency-driven adjustments are automatic, based on exchange rate and a set formula, and not influenced by the tightness of service budgets or even the demands of war. No corners are cut to hold down the cost of protecting their buying power, she said.

Current rates and how allowances are set can be found at the committee Web site: <https://www.pentagon.mil/perdiem/>. To comment on Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, Va. 20120-1111, or visit www.militaryupdate.com

Crash course



MAVINE E. THOMPSON JR./Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Myers, left, signals as the hose team moves in during a simulated crash of a CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopter on the flight deck of USS Fort McHenry on Thursday. The Whidbey Island-class dock landing ship is heading to the Philippines to provide humanitarian assistance and relief work on the east coast of Luzon after a series of storms devastated the area.

School celebration

SAGAMIHARA HOUSING AREA, Japan — Kindergartners from John O. Arn Elementary School will perform a "Celebration of the Season" at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday in the school cafeteria. The show is based on the story "Snow Role" by William Joyce.

Negishi cleanup

NEGISHI HOUSING AREA, Japan — Base residents can improve the look of their community during a base-wide cleanup campaign Wednesday. Residents are welcome to join the day-long clean up by calling DSN 424-4101.

Xtreme holiday dinner

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Unaccompanied military members are invited to the "Single Airman Xtreme Christmas Dinner" Friday from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Mokuteki Community Center's Vortex game room. The event is open to all branches of service at Misawa.

Call DSN 226-4128 for more information.

Single military members at Mis-

awa may also partake in an Unaccompanied Christmas Party on Dec. 23 from 5 to 11 p.m. in the Tokoku Enlisted Club dining room. The event is free for club members; nonmembers pay \$9.95.

Call DSN 222-9512 for more information.

Misawa sports group

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan —

Misawa Youth Sports is organizing a Youth Sports Advisory Committee. The group will meet prior to each sports event to discuss league rules, bylaws and ways to improve the base's sports leagues. Interested members should sign up by Friday. The committee's first meeting is Dec. 20 at 5:30 p.m. at Lunney Youth Center. Call DSN 226-3220 for more information.

From staff reports

JOHNSON'S USED CARS

AMERICAN VEHICLES OWNED AND OPERATED, WE TAKE PRIDE IN SELLING QUALITY CARS

• PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE •

\$200-\$500 OFF

From clearance and cars

Registration, but 2 yrs JCI included

ALL CARS OFFERED AT REASONABLE PRICES

Cars sold as low as

\$1,700

monthly lease

OR AT AFTER SERVICE

"We have any problem with your car so we can give you

any money back or we'll be happy to take it back or we'll

be happy to take it back or we'll be happy to take it back

For more information call 042-560-5190

GEORGE'S USED CAR MILITARY SALES

Looking for a car or van?

Go to George's for an inexpensive dependable car or van. We'll take care of your needs. 2 YRS JCI

Just call: 090-9969-1109
Serving the Yokota area

STARTING PRICES (DEC-14) ALL ROUND TRIP FARES

Christmas Bargains!!!
SEATS STILL AVAILABLE. CALL NOW!

HONG KONG (DIRECT) 12/13-12/24	\$31,500
SINGAPORE (DIRECT) 12/13-12/24	\$31,500
SEATTLE, NEW YORK (DIRECT) 12/17-12/22	\$52,500
USA SELECTED CITY (DIRECT) 12/13-12/22	\$54,500
HONG KONG (DIRECT) 12/13-12/24	\$31,500
SINGAPORE (DIRECT) 12/13-12/24	\$31,500
SEATTLE, NEW YORK (DIRECT) 12/17-12/22	\$52,500
USA SELECTED CITY (DIRECT) 12/13-12/22	\$54,500
HONG KONG (DIRECT) 12/13-12/24	\$31,500
SINGAPORE (DIRECT) 12/13-12/24	\$31,500
SEATTLE, NEW YORK (DIRECT) 12/17-12/22	\$52,500
USA SELECTED CITY (DIRECT) 12/13-12/22	\$54,500

U.S.A. TO JAPAN
SPECIAL FARES AVAILABLE, PLEASE CALL

BUSINESS HOURS
MON-FRI 9:30-18:30 SAT 10:00-15:00

SHIBUYA (HEAD OFFICE)
03-5456-5677
FAX: 03-5456-5678
shb@airnetjapan.com

YOKOSUKA (BRANCH)
046-820-1180
FAX: 046-820-1181
yok@airnetjapan.com

WHY NOT CHECK WITH AIRNET?
\$ and Credit Cards Accepted.

AIR+HOTEL (2PAK-1) (12/13-1/1)

GUAM (3 DAYS / 3N)	\$29,500
SEOUL (3 DAYS / 3N)	\$21,500
HONOLULU (3 DAYS / 3N)	\$55,500
SKI HOLIDAY (2 DAYS / 1N / 7Days)	\$18,000
KYOTO (2 DAYS / 1N / 7Days)	\$17,100

*Prices may vary depending on availability and dates.

YOKOSUKA
RESCUE
TOKYO
JAPANESE
HERF
3F

Officials: Military works to upgrade armor

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Military officials said they were working hard to upgrade the armor on Army vehicles in Iraq, a day after a soldier had pressed Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on the subject. President Bush said, "The concerns expressed are being addressed."

Close to three-quarters of the Humvees in the Iraq war theater now have upgraded armor protection, but many larger trucks and tractor-trailer rigs do not, according to congressional figures.

Military officials said that armoring Humvees has been the top priority because they are used to patrol areas where

attacks are likely. The heavy haulers, meanwhile, usually travel convoy routes that are more frequently swept for guerrillas and bombs.

The issue of whether the military is providing enough protection to soldiers is receiving new attention after a National Guardsman on his way to Iraq questioned Rumsfeld on Wednesday as to why he and his comrades had to scrounge through scrap piles to protect their vehicles.

Lt Gen. Steven R. Whitcomb, commander of the 3rd Army, was questioned about that by Pentagon reporters Thursday in a teleconference from Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

"If I can add another plate or another inch or more to the vehicle I'm riding in

that gives me protection, it's better," he said. "So I think that's a prudent thing to do, if the soldier has the capability. ... In my opinion, it's not being done in mass numbers or mass quantities."

He said vehicles with upgraded armor were being added every day.

"Our goal, and what we're working toward, is that no wheeled vehicle that leaves Kuwait going into Iraq is driven by a soldier that does not have some level of armor protection on it," he said.

At the White House in Washington, Bush, too, was asked about the situation.

"The concerns expressed are being addressed and that is — we expect our troops to have the best possible equipment," Bush said.

Democrats have more questions for Rumsfeld. Sen. Dick Durbin, an Illinois Democrat, said he would put his in a letter demanding increased production of armor kits and an explanation for why soldiers are searching for scrap metal in landfills.

Questions have been raised about why the military had not started armoring its vehicles sooner than August 2003, when insurgents turned to bombs to attack U.S. forces. Some critics point to the lack of light armored vehicles as further evidence the Bush administration was unprepared for the kind of insurgency it has faced in Iraq.

As to the issue of soldiers turning to scrap piles to better protect their vehicles, senior military officials have offered a few explanations.

Newspaper regrets readers not told up front of reporter's role in armor story

The Associated Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Readers should have been told promptly that an embedded reporter had helped frame a question that a serviceman asked of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld this week in Kuwait, the reporter's publisher says.

The question to Rumsfeld from Spc. Thomas "Jerry" Wilson, 31, of Nashville, complaining that many military vehicles in Iraq are not adequately armored, has touched off a storm of new publicity about the issue.

"In hindsight, information on how the question was framed should have been included in Thursday's story in the Times Free Press. It was not," the paper's publisher and executive editor, Tom Griscorn, said in a note to readers published Friday.

Military affairs reporter Edward Lee Pitts, who is embedded with the 278th Regimental Combat Team, said he worked with guardsmen after being told reporters would not be allowed to ask Rumsfeld any questions.

Pitts had sent an e-mail to co-workers back in Tennessee on Wednesday outlining his role.

Stories differ on whether armoring was increased

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — As the uproar over unprotected Humvees grew and President Bush tried to assure worried soldiers that their safety is a top concern, the manufacturer of armor plating said he had not been asked to increase production.

"I have told many families I've met with we're doing everything we possibly can to protect your loved ones," Bush said. "They deserve the best."

He said concerns raised by troops in Kuwait to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld on Wednesday "are being addressed."

U.S. Army spokesman John Paul Boyce said, "We are looking into the announcement. We are continuing efforts outlined yesterday to provide safe vehicles for our troops in the Global War on Terror. We are making no commitment at this time in regards to any new contracts, but our goal is to keep those vehicles and our troops safe."

But Florida-based Armor Holdings says the company advised the Army last month that it could increase output by as much as 22 percent per month but never heard back.

Robert McCreedy, president of



STEVIE LIEWER/Stars and Stripes

Sgt. Orville Whitlock, 30, of Lynchburg, Va., explains how a rocket-propelled grenade hit his Company B, 9th Engineer Battalion Humvee during a patrol May 5.

the company's aerospace and defense group, said that the company easily could boost the number of armored trucks it turns out from 450 a month to 550 a month.

"We're prepared to build 50 to 100 vehicles more per month," McCreedy told Bloomberg News. "I stand ready to do that."

Democrats accused the administration of lying to the troops.

"Even more outrageous than sending soldiers into combat without the proper protective equipment is offering them false excuses," said Rep. Marty Meehan, D-Mass.

Stripes reporter Leo Shane III contributed to this report from the Pentagon.

Shop New Wave Bedroom Suites for a good night's sleep!

Choose from New Wave Bedroom Suites' great selection of pillowtop mattresses, pillow top waterbed mattresses, furniture and accessories

Plus! 10% off all regular stocked items and mattresses

Good through December 31, 2004

AFES CONCESSIONAIRE **STAR**

New Wave Bedroom Suites is open daily 10-6
Located near the AFES Furniture Store on Yokota AB
DSN 225-6379

DECEMBER LAST MINUTE TRAVEL SPECIALS

RATES STARTING FROM

City	Rates	City	Rates
Seoul	\$195~	Hong Kong	\$290~
Los Angeles	\$360~	Honolulu	\$395~
New York	\$370~	Sydney	\$485~
London	\$500~		

Rates are based on seating availability and are subject to change without notice. Rates listed do not include tax.



Yokota ITT
Yujo Recreation Center Yokota AB

227-7083 Fax 227-7089

GI pleads guilty to killing wounded Iraqi

BY PAUL GARWOOD

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A U.S. soldier pleaded guilty at his court-martial Friday to killing a severely wounded 16-year-old Iraqi boy during fierce fighting in Baghdad's impoverished Sadr City neighborhood, the military said.

Staff Sgt. Johnny M. Horne Jr., 30, of Winston-Salem, N.C., was among several soldiers who had found the wounded teenager on Aug. 18 in a burning truck with severe abdominal wounds sustained during the clashes. A criminal investigator had said during an earlier hearing that the soldiers decided to kill him to "put him out of his misery."

Sadr City was the scene of wild clashes earlier this year between coalition forces and Shiite rebels allied to firebrand cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, a loud opponent of the U.S.-led occupation of Iraq.

In a plea bargain, Horne, a member of Company C, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, from Fort Riley, Kan., pleaded guilty to one count of unpremeditated murder and one count of soliciting another soldier to commit unpremeditated murder. The charges are under Articles 118 and 81 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

"The convictions stemmed from Staff Sgt. Horne's murder of a severely wounded Iraqi civilian

in Baghdad's Sadr City district," a military statement said.

Lt. Col. James Hutton, a military spokesman, said Horne had originally been charged with the more serious offenses of premeditated murder, conspiracy to commit premeditated murder and solicitation of another soldier to commit premeditated murder.

"He decided to plead guilty to the lesser charges presented to him," Hutton said.

Horne's sentence could be decided as early as Saturday.

Horne is one of six Fort Riley soldiers charged with killings in recent months — two for slayings in Kansas and four for deaths in Iraq. Staff Sgt. Cardenas J. Alban, 29, of Inglewood, Calif., was charged along with Horne in the teenager's killing and is awaiting a court-martial hearing.

Prior military court hearings have heard that several troops had fired on a group of Iraqi men placing homemade bombs along a road in Sadr City. Soldiers from the same battalion arrived on the scene to find a burning truck and casualties around it.

According to accounts given by witnesses at previous hearings, the soldiers, including Horne, tried to rescue an Iraqi casualty from inside the vehicle. The victim had severe abdominal wounds and burns and was thought by several of the witnesses to be beyond medical help.

Hassoun charged with desertion

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — A Marine who claimed he was abducted by anti-coalition forces after he went missing from his unit in Iraq has been charged with desertion.

The charges filed Thursday against Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun followed a five-month investiga-

tion into his June disappearance from a U.S. military camp near Fallujah, Iraq, according to a statement from the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade at Camp Lejeune.

Hassoun, of West Jordan, Utah, is accused of taking unauthorized leave from the unit where he served as an Arabic interpreter.

Hassoun also is charged with loss of government property and theft of a military firearm for allegedly leaving the Marine camp while still in possession of his 9 mm service pistol, as well as theft and wrongful appropriation of a government vehicle.

No date has been set for an Article 32 hearing, one of the first steps toward a possible court-martial, Morgan said.



Pamper yourself

SCHEDULE A BEAUTY TREATMENT AT
YCC BEAUTY SHOP

- FACIALS
- MASSAGE
- HAIR CUTS
- PERMS
- RELAXERS
- MANICURES
- PEDICURES
- EYEBROW WAXES

WEEKLY SPECIALS

PERM & COLOR \$4.00 OFF

DECEMBER 17 - 23, 2004
YCC BEAUTY SHOP ONLY

AFES
CONCESSIONAIRE
sales.com...open all the time!

Call 225-8379

Located at Yokota Community Center
Open Monday - Saturday 10:00 - 20:00 Sunday 1000 - 1800

PTSD diagnosis won't halt AWOL prosecution

WASHINGTON — An Army reservist who checked himself into a civilian psychiatric hospital after being turned away from a military clinic should be court-martialed for being absent without leave, according to an Army report.

First Lt. Julian P. Goodrum, of Knoxville, Tenn., is a veteran of both U.S. wars in Iraq and is being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Goodrum was suffering from the disorder last fall, the time of his alleged infraction.

"Lt. Goodrum has been diagnosed with PTSD, though this should not be reason to not pursue court-martial action," states the report by Army Lt. Col. Michael Amara, the investigating officer in the case.

Goodrum's legal team, which released the report to The Washington Post, intends to fight the recommendation.

From The Associated Press

NO. 1 TRAVEL'S NATIONAL NETWORK HAS BEEN SERVING THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY FOR OVER 19 YEARS.

DO YOU HAVE A MILITARY ID? THESE PRICES ARE FOR YOU ONLY!!

**EAST COAST
1CITY**
¥63,000~
12/16-12/23

LOS ANGELES
¥38,400~
12/14-12/17

HONG KONG
¥29,800~
12/14-12/22

http://www.no1-travel.com

<p>Shinjuku Head Office 03-3200-8871 Fax 03-3200-8870 Monday ~ Friday 10:30 ~ 19:30 Saturday ~ 11:00 ~ 18:30 Sunday & Holiday Closed</p>	<p>Ikebukuro Branch 03-3986-4291 Fax 03-3986-9980 Monday ~ Friday 10:30 ~ 19:30 Saturday ~ 11:00 ~ 18:30 Sunday & Holiday Closed</p>	<p>Shibuya Branch 03-3770-1381 Email: no1shb@afes.or.jp Monday ~ Friday 10:30 ~ 19:30 Saturday & Holiday Closed</p>	<p>Yokohama Branch 045-322-1701 Email: no1yok@afes.or.jp Monday ~ Friday 10:30 ~ 19:30 Saturday & Holiday Closed</p>
--	--	---	--

IMPORTANT

- Prices may vary depending on availability and dates.
- Cancellation charges DO APPLY, please confirm all details at time of booking.
- Taxes/Delivery charges NOT included. Please verify at time of booking.
- All rates quoted based on AVAILABILITY.
- Payment can only be received at branch where reservation was confirmed.
- US\$ Payments are only accepted at the Yokohama Branch.

Pentagon dinner honors wounded troops

BY PATRICK DICKSON

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Sgt. Arthur McLin walked into the Pentagon's Eisenhower corridor and saw a familiar face.

"I remember you," he said to Sgt. Paul Sheldermine.

The two sized up each other's injuries and gingerly shook hands.

"Therapy," said Sheldermine.

McLin, of the National Guard's 2101 Transportation Company 3rd Platoon out of Aliceville, Alabama and Sheldermine, of the Army Reserve's 369th Transportation Company, based in Wichita, Kansas,

were two of 170 guests from Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., honored Thursday evening when the troops who were injured in the global war on terror.

The troops were welcomed by Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz, Mrs. Donald Rumsfeld and a host of general officers and their wives. Defense Secretary Rumsfeld could not attend because he was flying back from his visit with troops overseas.

Wolfowitz told those gathered about troops fighting in the Battle of the Bulge, the seemingly insur-

mountable odds against them and the casualties they suffered.

"You've probably heard all the accolades," Wolfowitz said. "They're called the Greatest Generation, and deserve to be called that. But you here, and the men and women in uniform on the front lines in Afghanistan and Iraq, are every bit as brave and courageous and dedicated to this country."

One of the highlights of the evening was World Wrestling Entertainment superstar Mick Foley, aka Mankind, who ate with the troops and agreed to countless photo requests.

Foley, who regularly visits the

wounded, spoke before the meal about his work with the Defense Department's America Supports You program and how humbling his visits have been.

But the stars of the evening were the troops.

As they mingled and talked about their experiences, they wanted their compatriots still in the fight to know they are OK, and to be safe.

Cpl. Roberto Santiago of the 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division, based at Friedberg, Germany, talking about his friends Spcs. DeCamps and Gregory, perhaps summed up the experience of camaraderie in war best.

"Those guys kept me alive over there. When one of us was down, the other two would get him up and keep him going."

Santiago was badly injured in May when he took shrapnel from an RPG in the spine in Karbala. He walks with crutches now, but says the prognosis is good for him to walk unaided soon.

Now that he's recovering, he has a different support team.

"I give all the credit to my wife, Tina — she takes care of me and our three kids. I don't know how she does it."

E-mail Pat Dickson at: dicksonp@stripes.osd.mil



A'cross Travellers Bureau

Best Deals Online ➔ www.across-travel.com

This Week's SPECIALS

DIRECT LOS ANGELES \$39,800 1/10-1/23	DIRECT NEW YORK \$48,000 1/24-1/31 MON-FRI	USA East Coast \$51,000 1/24-1/31 MON-FRI	HONOLULU \$41,500 1/8-1/20 WED	LONDON, PARIS, FRANKFURT \$54,000 1/1-1/21	SYDNEY MELBOURNE \$55,000 1/10-1/21 PLEASE ASK SCHEDULE
DIRECT BANGKOK \$34,000 1/7-1/21	DIRECT SINGAPORE \$37,800 1/10-1/23	DIRECT HONGKONG \$35,500 1/8-1/21 SUN-WED	SHANGHAI \$39,500 1/4-1/21	DENPASAR \$49,500 1/5-1/21 SUN-TUE-THU	SEOUL \$21,800 1/2-1/21 SUN-THU

INTERNATIONAL PACKAGES

GUAM 4days \$34,800~ (\$316) 1/9-31 SUNDAY-TUE	SHANGHAI 3days \$35,800~ (\$325) 1/14, 21, 28
SINGAPORE 4days \$39,200~ (\$356) 1/10-31 SUN-WED	CEBU 5days \$52,800~ (\$480) 1/11-31

ENJOY!! JAPAN HOTEL & AIR TICKETS
(1 NIGHT STAY / ROUND TRIP)

SAPPORO \$20,300~ \$185 18.1/18.4 2/2 persons per room	OKINAWA \$24,600~ \$224 18.7/18.9 2/2 persons per room	OSAKA \$19,500~ \$177 18.3/18.6 2/2 persons per room	HIROSHIMA \$20,500~ \$186 18.2/18.5 2/2 persons per room
---	---	---	---

Price may vary according to departure date. FARE-DOUBLE ROOM CHARGE: 1.4 PERSONS PER ROOM.

BUSINESS CLASS

LOS ANGELES \$153,000 (\$1,381) 1/10-1/23	SINGAPORE \$226,000 (\$2,055) 1/4-1/21 TUE-FRI
LONDON, PARIS \$235,000 (\$2,136) 1/2-1/21	HONG KONG \$107,000 (\$973) 1/10-1/21 SUN-FRI
BANGKOK \$149,000 (\$1,355) 1/2-1/21	SEOUL \$79,000 (\$718) 1/4-31

The Credit Card For TRAVELLERS!

MAPWORD CARD

NICOR VISA / NICOR MASTER

APPLY TODAY!

ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP

FOR FREE

IMPORTANT

(Other restrictions may apply)

Payment Japanese yen only.

Credit cards accepted (Visa/Master) at office.

Price may vary depending on departure date.

Subject to availability.

Tax not included in these prices.

Please inform us if you read about these prices in Stars & Stripes.

*...means starting from these prices.

Japan Domestic Package available. *Today in advance.

Last minute booking OK!

HIROO

03-5795-4711

SHIBUYA

03-5467-0077

SHINJUKU

03-3340-6745

IKEBUKURO

03-5391-3227

YOKOHAMA

045-322-7525

Tech advances keep combat deaths low

More troops surviving attacks, but many living with severe injuries

BY CECI CONNOLLY

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Ten percent of soldiers injured in Iraq have died from their war wounds, the lowest casualty fatality rate ever, thanks in large part to technological advances and the deployment of surgical SWAT teams at the front lines, an analysis published Thursday has found.

But the remarkable lifesaving rate has come at the enormous cost of creating a generation of severely wounded young veterans and a severe shortage of military surgeons, wrote Atul Gawande, a surgeon at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

The war in Iraq has produced the "largest burden of casualties" our military medical personnel have had to cope with since the Vietnam War,

said Gawande's report in the New England Journal of Medicine.

By contrast, 24 percent of soldiers wounded in the Vietnam War or the Persian Gulf War did not survive.

"It used to be our thinking that the number of deaths reflects the violence of the war," Gawande said in an interview. "Now, the number of deaths reflects how well surgical teams are doing in saving lives."

More than 10,300 U.S. servicemen have been injured in Iraq and more than 1,000 of them killed in action, according to Defense Department statistics cited in the report.

Gawande praised the military's strategy of positioning close to the fighting smaller, "leaner and more mobile" surgical teams with the ability to erect a battlefield hospital in less than 60 minutes.

Traveling in Humvees with hand-held ultrasound machines, portable ventilators and an array of surgical tools and pharmaceuticals, the teams focus on stabilizing patients and moving them for further treatment in less than two hours.

During the Vietnam War, it took injured soldiers an average of 45 days to reach a hospital in the United States. At the beginning of the Iraq war, the average was eight days, and now it is four. One airman hit by a mortar attack in September "was on the operating table at Walter Reed" Army Medical Center in Washington "just 36 hours later,"

Gawande said.

The battlefield triage is called "damage control" because the emphasis is on stopping bleeding, keeping a patient warm and leaving almost everything else to doctors at a permanent hospital.

"The combination of Kevlar vests and a system that allows them to stop the bleeding makes it possible for them to survive injuries that were unsurvivable before," he said. "How you rehabilitate physically, let alone emotionally, someone who has that kind of loss is a serious question."

For every soldier killed, an average of 10 are injured, he said.

Gawande found similarly low fatality rates among soldiers wounded in Afghanistan.

Early in the Iraqi conflict, when the fighting was more traditional battlefield combat, the most common injuries came from wounds to limbs that were not protected by body armor.

More recently, as the engagement has shifted to guerrilla-style warfare with explosive devices, more injuries result from shrapnel that hits under vests and through neck and armholes, Gawande said. "And with suicide bombers, you see not just metal shrapnel, but also clothing, dirt and even bone from the attacker that is infectious," he said, "and can lead to more extensive surgeries and multiple surgeries."

With just 120 general surgeons on active duty in the Army and a similar number in the reserves, Gawande argued the teams are overextended and operating in far more dangerous circumstances. "Many surgeons have been on a second deployment or an extended deployment, and even this has not been sufficient," he wrote.

"Planners are having to contemplate pressing surgeons into yet a third deployment."

The American Medical Association and the state surgeon of the Wisconsin Army National Guard have expressed concerns that the Selective Service System may revise procedures for drafting medical personnel. Such a plan "was not undertaken at the request of anyone" at the Pentagon, a Defense Department statement said yesterday. "Furthermore, there is no need for such a plan."

Col. John B. Holcomb, commander of the U.S. Army Insti-



U.S. NAVY/AP

Petty Officer 3rd Class Jose Ramirez, a corpsman with 1st Force Service Support Group, Bravo Surgical Company, and native of San Antonio, Texas, and Petty Officer 2nd Class Danielle T. Tutongillette, a corpsman with 1st FSSG, Bravo Surgical Co. and native of San Diego, discuss an Iraqi Intervention Force patient's status at Bravo Surgical on Camp Falujah on Wednesday.

tute of Surgical Research, agreed that Iraq can no longer be viewed as a minor conflict. But he said the casualty rate and severity of injuries is not inconsistent with other wars.

A review of historical documents shows that "head and extremity injuries predominate, at least back to World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam," he said. Perhaps Gawande, who lacks military experience, was unaccustomed to the level of trauma seen in war, Holcomb said.

"The injuries in combat are devastating compared to what most civilian surgeons are used to seeing," he said, adding that the closest parallel he could think of were injuries sustained by someone run over by a train.

The number of general surgeons serving in Iraq is not as high as in the Persian Gulf War 13 years ago, Holcomb acknowledged. However, he said the key was placing the right doctors and nurses in the right place.

Iraq has brought other unanticipated medical challenges. Soldiers were suffering a "dismal" high incidence of blinding injuries" because they refused to wear goggles that they described as "something a Florida senior citizen would wear." So the military bowed to fashion, Gawande said, and purchased hipper protective eyewear that appears to be serving its purpose.

Battle Wounds

U.S. soldiers wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan are dying at a much lower rate than in previous military conflicts.

War	Wounded or killed in action	Killed in action	Lethality of war wounds
Revolutionary War	10,623	4,435	42%
War of 1812	6,765	2,260	33
Mexican War	5,885	1,733	29
Civil War	422,295	140,414	33
Spanish-American War	2,047	385	19
World War I	257,404	53,402	21
World War II	663,403	291,557	30
Korean War	137,025	33,741	25
Vietnam War	200,727	47,424	24
Persian Gulf War	614	147	24
Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan	10,319	1,004	10

SOURCE: New England Journal of Medicine



AP PHOTO/GRAPH BY THE WASHINGTON POST

Maathai receives Nobel in lively Oslo ceremony

BY DOUG MELLGREN

The Associated Press

OSLO, Norway — The first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize, environmental activist Wangari Maathai, received her award Friday to the beat of drums and dancers that broke with the usual staid ceremony, and she warned that humanity is "threatening its own life-support system."

Maathai received the traditional gold medal and diploma that accompanies the \$1.5 million prize at a ceremony in the Norwegian capital. A few hours later, Sweden's king awarded the other Nobel prizes — medicine, physics, chemistry, literature and economics — in Stockholm.

Bengt Samuelsson, chairman of the board of the Nobel Founda-

tion, addressed the frequently heard criticism that too few women have received the Nobel Prize during its first century. While only 31 of the 705 Nobel Prizes handed out since 1901 have gone to women, Samuelsson pointed out that three of this year's laureates are women.

"If the history of the Nobel Prize during its first century was a reflection of 19th- and early 20th-century values, maybe this year's awards are a glimpse of the changes we will see during this century," Samuelsson said.

One of the women, however, was a no-show at the ceremony: literature laureate Elfriede Jelinek. The Austrian writer says she has a social phobia. The third woman winner was Linda B. Buck, who shared the medicine prize with fellow American Richard Axel.

Maathai's Nobel prize is the first to acknowledge environmentalism as a means of building peace. In Oslo, the 64-year-old Kenyan — wearing a traditional dress, a bright orange scarf tied in her hair — warned that the world remained under attack from disease, deforestation and war.

"Today, we are faced with a challenge that calls for a shift in our thinking, so that humanity stops threatening its life-support system," she Kenyan told the crowd of dignitaries, who included the Norwegian royal family as well as talk show host Oprah Winfrey and Kerry Kennedy, a daughter of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

"We are called to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and, in the process, heal our own; indeed, to embrace the whole creation in all its diversity, beauty and wonder," Maathai said.

Chinese ship enters Japanese zone again

TOKYO — Defying protests by Tokyo, a Chinese research ship entered Japan's exclusive economic zone for the second time in a week Friday, prompting Tokyo to issue a fresh diplomatic complaint.

The ship was spotted Friday morning 195 miles southwest of the Japanese Pacific island of Okinotorishima, said Hiroshi Shirai, spokesman for the Maritime Self-Defense Force.

The same ship entered the zone at a different point on Tuesday, triggering a diplomatic protest by Japan. Tokyo says China had failed to properly notify Japan of the research ahead of time.

The ship on Friday was releasing sound waves as part of a marine survey, Shirai said. Japan's government responded by issuing a second complaint, said Yu Kameoka, a spokesman for Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi.

Expert: N. Korea nuclear threat overstated

SEOUL — The U.S. government exaggerated the threat from North Korea's nuclear programs, just as it manipulated intelligence about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, a U.S. foreign policy expert said in an article published Friday.

Selig Harrison said President Bush's administration claimed that Pyongyang was on its way to producing weapons-grade uranium in order to scare allies into a harder stance on the communist nation.

But by failing to distinguish between civilian and military uranium-enrichment capabilities, Washington greatly complicated the already-complex efforts to eliminate North Korea's nuclear weapons ambitions, Selig wrote in the Dec. 17 issue of Foreign Affairs.

"Relying on sketchy data, the Bush administration presented a worst-case scenario as an incontrovertible truth and distorted its intelligence on North Korea (much as it did on Iraq), seriously exaggerating the danger that Pyongyang is secretly making uranium-based nuclear weapons," he said.

From The Associated Press



NIGHT FLIGHT
Fly one to five nights

YOKOTA 042-530-4891

E-mail: yokota@fe-nf.com

We will give you the best offer!! JUST CALL US!!

Christmas Special!!

SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL 2005

14FEB-6FEB 30DAYS FROM **\$44400(\$426)** (REG-FESTIVAL PLAN)
 5FEB-7FEB 30DAYS FROM **\$48900(\$470)** (OPENING DAY PLAN)
 5FEB-6FEB 40DAYS FROM **\$61900(\$589)** (1DAY EXTRA PLAN)

*Air Hotel
2 or 3 nights + Breakfast
All included!!
Be secure and for now!!

JAN & EASTER HOLIDAY SPECIAL!!

CAIRNS 5DAYS	SAIPAN 3DAYS	HAWAII 5DAYS
FROM \$699	FROM \$403	FROM \$499
CHILD HALF!	INFANT FREE!	INFANT FREE!

ALL HOTEL & AIR INCLUDED. TAX NOT INCLUDED.

19th JAN. MARTIN LUTHER KING Jr. Day

BEIJING 4DAYS \$53000(\$509)	BEIJING& XIAN 5DAYS \$69000(\$663)	GUILIN 5DAYS \$69000(\$663)	VIETNAM 5DAY \$69000(\$663)
---	---	--	--

DAY TOUR, MEALS GUIDE ALL INCLUDE!! (DEPT 15,16 & 19JAN) MIN.10 PASSENGER

DEC & JAN DEP. USA FARE

ROUND TRIP 1 MONTH TICKET	LOS ANGELES 24 JAN-3 FEB	USA SELECT CITY BY 15 DEC	ALL USA 10-15 DEC	ALL USA 1 CITY 10-31 JAN (35 ADVANCE)
PRICE FROM	FROM \$39,900/CH\$35,000 \$382/CH\$335	FROM \$46,000 \$442	FROM \$58,000 \$557	\$52,000 \$499

DEC-JAN SPECIAL

ROUND TRIP	OKINAWA 7-31 JAN DEP 8 DAYS ADVANCE	SEOUL SUN-TUE JAN SUN-TUE	BANGKOK BY 17 DEC	HONG KONG BY 25 DEC	MANILA BY 31 JAN
PRICE FROM	FROM \$28,600 \$275	FROM \$23,900 \$221	FROM \$39,800 \$382	FROM \$38,900 \$374	FROM \$39,900 \$408
O/W, ROUND TRIP	GUAM/SAIPAN ONE WAY	HAWAII ONE WAY	HAWAII BY 15 DEC	PHUKET 2-31 JAN	HO CHI MINH 2-31 JAN
PRICE FROM	\$175	\$338	FROM \$54,000/\$41,500 \$519/\$399	FROM \$42,900 \$412	FROM \$42,900 \$412

MISAWA DEP USA & ASIA ASK US AS WELL!!

BIG NEWS!! NIGHT FLIGHT OPEN ON SATURDAY & SUNDAY FOR YOU! (Open Sunday after military payday!)

WEEK DAY 9:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M. SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

You'd Better Ask Night Flight!! No Waiting!! We are happy to serve you immediately!!

IMPORTANT

* Prices may vary depending on availability and dates.
 * Cancellation charges DO APPLY, please confirm all details at time of booking.
 * Please verify if hotel is included.
 * All rates quoted based on AIRLABILITY.

Japan overhauls its defense guidelines

BY AUDREY MCAVOY

The Associated Press

TOKYO — In a shift away from its postwar pacifism, Japan's government overhauled its defense guidelines Friday, easing an arms exports ban and singling out North Korea and China as security threats.

The overhaul, which also allows the government to develop a missile defense program with the United States, has raised concerns about a slow erosion of the pacifist society Japan built after World War II.

The opposition Social Democratic Party, one of the smallest parties in parliament, criticized the government for removing self-imposed controls on military development.

The changes also have been watched uneasily by some of Japan's Asian neighbors, who suffered under Tokyo's expansionist policies in the first half of the last century. The guidelines sought to allay such fears, saying Japan's allyships would not go on the offensive.

"Our country, under our constitution, will adhere exclusively to self-defense," the report said. "Fol-

lowing our policy of not becoming a major military power that would pose a threat to other countries, we will secure civilian control."

The plan, approved in a Cabinet meeting Friday, also calls for Japan to participate in international peacekeeping missions, underscoring Tokyo's efforts to play a global security role that better matches its economic strength.

The revised guidelines fit with Japan's decade-long effort to increase security cooperation with the United States. The pro-U.S. government on Thursday approved a one-year extension of the military's humanitarian mission in Iraq.

The government also authorized an ease to a longtime ban on arms exports to allow for the missile defense program with the United States. The guidelines cited the threats posed by North Korean missiles, China's military buildup and terrorism.

"This is about ensuring security and dealing with new threats as the times change," Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi told reporters.

Pyeongyang became one of Tokyo's biggest security worries after it test-fired a long-range ballistic missile over Japan in 1998,



Members of Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force stand at attention during the annual inspection parade of the JGSDF East Area division. Japan's government overhauled its defense guidelines Friday, easing an arms exports ban and singling out North Korea and China as security threats.

promoting Tokyo to begin researching missile defense. North Korea also has an active nuclear weapons development program.

Japan has maintained an arms export ban since 1976. Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said the government, however, would make exceptions to pursue missile defense with Washington for security purposes.

Ken Jimbo, director of the Japan Forum on International Relations, said the plan signaled that Japan's defense policy was adjusting to a post-Cold War world.

"It's epoch-making that the guidelines now call for a flexible, multifaceted military instead of the stiff military foundation that's been in place until now," said Jimbo.

The guidelines vowed to maintain the current policy of not making or possessing nuclear weapons. Japan is the only country to have been attacked with nuclear weapons, when the United States twice hit the country in 1945.

The new defense outline, which covers from 2005 to 2014, also singles out China as a security concern, pointing out that Beijing has expanded the range of its military activities at sea and has been modernizing its naval and air force.

Hosoda played down the reference.

Japan's navy went on alert last month when a Chinese submarine was detected in the country's waters between the southern island of Okinawa and Taiwan. Japan says that China apologized, but tensions remain high.

Jimbo said the new guidelines would likely irritate Beijing but that Japan would also be seeking to deepen ties with its neighbor even as it follows the plan.

The new guidelines followed Tokyo's extension Thursday of its largest foreign military operation since World War II. Japan currently has 550 ground troops in Iraq on a humanitarian mission to purify water and rebuild infrastructure.

Japanese panel advises tighter border controls

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan should fingerprint and photograph all foreigners entering the country as part of efforts to tighten border controls and keep terrorists out, a senior security panel recommended Friday.

The government's panel on international crime and terrorism also advised that international airlines be required to submit passenger lists to Japanese authorities, according to an outline of the plan from the Cabinet Office.

It further recommended the introduction of sky marshals on commercial flights and said import controls could be tightened on goods that could be used to make weapons and explosives.

Although Japan has not suffered an Islamic terror attack on home soil, concerns are high that a dispatch of Japanese troops on a humanitarian mission in Iraq and Tokyo's high-profile support for the U.S.-led war on terror could make it a target for militants.

The government established the panel, chaired by Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda, as part of its commitment to improve security.

The Cabinet is expected to approve the panel's recommendations on Dec. 14. Related government ministries would then draw up legislation to introduce the measures following parliamentary approval.



Retain your rank and retirement benefits.

Once you've decided to leave the military, think about going above and beyond in the Air Force Reserve. In most cases, you'll retain your rank and there's no need to repeat basic training. You'll also be able to continue accruing valuable retirement benefits. To learn more, go to www.afreserve.com or call 800-257-1212.



800-257-1212 ★ www.afreserve.com

N. Korean leader's longtime confidant sidelined?

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il's brother-in-law and longtime confidant appears to have been sidelined as Pyongyang consolidates power around Kim, a leading expert on the communist state said Friday.

Chang Sung Taek, the 58-year-old husband of Kim's younger sister, Kim Kyong Hee, is considered one of the most influential aides to the North Korean leader. He controlled personnel matters in the ruling Workers' Party, and his two brothers held top jobs in the military.

Since last year, however, South Korean media have been reporting that Chang appears to have been purged and is being held under house arrest. He has disappeared from North Korean television and news reports.

Recent news reports have said intelligence officials confirmed Chang's downfall during a closed-door briefing to the National Assembly. Quoting anonymous lawmakers, reports said the intelligence officials saw the purge as an apparent move to clear the way for a possible transfer of power to Kim's sons.

Outside analysts have often cited Chang, a seasoned machinator, as a potential stumbling block if Kim starts transferring power to Kim Jong Chol, one of his three sons most likely to inherit power.

From The Associated Press

UNICEF: Poverty, war, AIDS plague world's kids

BY CATHERINE MCALOON

The Associated Press

LONDON — More than half the world's children are suffering the effects of poverty, war and HIV/AIDS, denying them a healthy and safe childhood, UNICEF's annual report said Thursday.

The United Nations children's fund report on The State of the World's Children found more than 1 billion children were growing up hungry and unhealthy, schools had become targets for warring parties and whole villages were being killed off by AIDS.

A failure by governments around the

world to live up to standards outlined in 1989's Convention on the Rights of the Child caused permanent damage to children and blocked progress toward human rights and economic advancement, the report said.

"Too many governments are making informed, deliberate choices that actually hurt childhood," UNICEF executive director Carol Bellamy said.

A day before the report's release, an editorial published in *The Lancet*, the respected British medical journal, accused Belamy of neglecting issues of child survival while emphasizing the rights of children.

UNICEF spokesman Alfred Ironside

"Globally child deaths have fallen by 18 percent since 1990," Ironside said in London.

In his foreword to the report, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan said poverty denied children dignity and endangered their lives, conflict robbed them of a secure family life and HIV/AIDS killed parents, teach-

Compiled by UNICEF and researchers at the London School of Economics and Bristol University, the report found more than half the children in developing countries lived in poverty without access to basic goods and services.

basic goods and services.

It also said:

■ One in six children was severely hun-

■ One in seven had no access to health care.

■ One in five had no safe water.

■ One in three had no toilet or sanitation facilities at home.

Poverty was not confined to developing countries, the report said, as the proportion of children living in low-income households in 11 of 15 industrialized nations rose in the past decade.

More than 10 million child deaths were recorded in 2003, with an estimated 29,158 children under 5 dying from mostly preventable causes everyday.

WWII prisoner revisits memories of captivity by Japanese

BY YEO GHIM LAY

The Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Sheila Allan was a 17-year-old convent schoolgirl when Japanese forces jailed her in Singapore's Changi prison during World War II. This year, she returned to the place where she spent 3½ years as a captive.

Allan, an Australian citizen who was born in Malaysia, was one of seven former war-era prisoners who made the final journey to Changi in July before the building was demolished to make way for a new prison complex.

The pilgrimage was chronicled in "Sayonara Changi," a Sin-

gapore-made documentary that will premiere on the Discovery Channel in Asia on Dec. 15.

by Japanese soldiers in Singapore, a former British colony.

safe," she said. "Can you imagine if I had been left out in the street? I could be killed, I could be raped."

Allan was one of 300 women and children who were jailed in Changi in eastern Singapore dur-

ing the Japanese occupation. Tens of thousands of allied soldiers were also held there.

"Going back to Changi Prison brought it all back. It was very emotional, even uncomfortable," Allan said in an interview Wednesday before a screening of the documentary at a museum.

In the documentary, Allan wept when she visited her former cell.

"It was a very traumatic experience, I didn't want to go back to a place where I had so many bad memories," she said.

Allan was persuaded to see Changi for the last time by Pek Siok Lian, the Singaporean director of "Savonara Changi."

Allan arrived at Changi Prison on March 8, 1942 with her father, an Australian mining engineer, and Thai stepmother. Her mother was a Malaysian Chinese.

Prisoners suffered hunger and sickness in Changi, as the Japanese cut meals to just once a day in the later part of the imprisonment. Allan's father died in the prison, and she was released in September 1945.

Allan is in touch with the children of her fellow inmates, and she admits to mixed feelings about the dismantling of the old prison.

Only a stretch of wall in the prison will be preserved as a memorial.

Christian Ministries Far East

Pastor Charles A. Hall



“...where the SPIRIT of the
LORD is, there is LIBERTY.”

2 Corinthians 3:17

CMFE Weekly Schedule:

Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 am & 6:30 pm

Wednesday Christian Studies Class - 6:30 pm

Friday Prayer & Evangelistic Service - 6:30 pm

Location: Sakaiya Building on ROUTE 16 (4th floor)

- * 3 min walk from Yokosuka Base back gate.
- * Public parking deck on left-side of building.

Yokosuka Naval Base (Main Gate)

DAIEI Mall

Route 16



7-11 Store (on left)

7-11 Store (Back Gate)

Sakaiya Bldg

Sakaiya Bldg





- * Pass the 7-11 Store (on left).
- * Sakaiya Bldg is on the opposite end of that block facing Rt 16.
- * Use side-street door after 4pm.

Yokota + NFL Football = Fo the All Frenzy

Kansas City Chiefs at Tennessee Titans
Tuesday, December 14 at 6 pm

Come to the *Enlisted Club* and see the game on our Big Screen TV, eat at our free buffet, order 10x Buffalo Wings and take advantage of our drink specials. Each visit is your chance to win tickets to Atlanta at Tampa Bay, Super Bowl, or the Pro Bowl, plus Big Screen TVs and X-Box video game systems.

© 2006 AAFCU
Enlisted Club
Seibu Dome
Services

AAFCU **Enlisted Club** **Seibu Dome** **SERVICES**

AAFCU Vending Seibu Dome & Enlisted Club



HIS

Highest International Standards

For Misawa Air Base

Hurry up!! christmas is coming soon!!

Ask Satomi or Emily in English by phone, fax or e-mail

Special deal !!
Get a special phone card
(value \$3,000)



From **Narita**

Hong Kong
12/14-12/21
\$45,000 (\$424)

Honolulu
12/19-12/21
\$69,000 (\$650)

All USA 1 City
12/11/12-20-22
\$69,500 (\$655)

London
12/12/20
\$88,000 (\$830)

Sydney
12/12/18
\$117,000 (\$1,103)

From **Aomori**

Seoul
1/5-2/2 Wed
\$40,000 (\$377)

Sydney
1/5-1/30 Wed/Fri
\$106,000 (\$998)

From **Misawa**

Europe 1 City
1/4-1/31 Mon-Fri
E.g. London, Paris, Rome, Barcelona, etc
\$93,000 (\$877)

Honolulu
1/8-1/31
\$82,000 (\$773)



Prices may vary depending on availability and dates.
Credit card payments are accepted (Visa or Master only).
Taxes are not included in ticket prices.
Based on \$1=\$106
ASK other departure date or details.



HIS Downtown Hachinohe Branch

Phone: **0178-72-1701**
Fax: **0178-44-8744**

Via Nova 3F 1 Jyusannichi-machi
Hachinohe, Aomori

Mon-Fri: 10:00 am - 18:30 pm Closed on 31 Dec 1 Jan
Sat: 11:00 am - 18:30 pm
Sun & National Holiday: 11:00 am - 18:00 pm

URL: www.his-touhoku.com/no1.html Email: his154@adh.his.ne.jp

Licensed Agency #724 / Member of IATA, JATA / Sponsored by H.I.S. Co., LTD

1st U.S. airliner since '75 lands in Vietnam

BY MARGIE MASON
The Associated Press

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam — A U.S. passenger jet landed in Vietnam on Friday, the first since the Vietnam War ended nearly 30 years ago.

United Airlines Flight 869, from San Francisco, arrived in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, at shortly after 10 p.m. Friday.

It is the first U.S. commercial plane to touch down at Tan Son Nhat International Airport since the wartime capital of South Vietnam fell to the communists in 1975.

U.S. relations with Vietnam have improved considerably in recent years. The two countries established diplomatic ties in 1995, and in 2001 they signed a landmark trade agreement, followed by an aviation pact last year.

In November 2003, the first U.S. Navy ship since the Vietnam War docked on the Saigon River.

United Airlines, which filed for bankruptcy two years ago, is betting the daily flight to Vietnam will be a big moneymaker. The carrier says it expects air travel to Vietnam to grow 10.5 percent a year in the next decade.

Among the 260 people on the flight was 48-year-old Van Trinh, one of the tens of thousands of Vietnamese who fled the country in boats after the war. "I'm excited to see Vietnam now because 30 years is too long,"

she said before boarding the Boeing 747-400.

Trinh is among 1 million ethnic Vietnamese who live in the United States, the largest population outside Vietnam. Many visit Vietnam every year.

The country is also a popular destination with American veterans who want to see how it has changed. "The United Airlines link between the two countries will not only serve Vietnamese nationals living in America, but I was told that 45 million Americans wanted to travel to Vietnam, and that is a very big market," said Nguyen Xuan Hien, Vietnam Airlines president and CEO.

Many Americans who fought in the war have vivid memories of Tan Son Nhat airport, where they caught Pan American "freedom birds" home or to rest stops such as Hong Kong and Japan.

Now-defunct Pan American was the last commercial U.S. carrier to fly out of Vietnam before the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. Meanwhile Vietnam's state-owned carrier has expressed interest in opening its own route to San Francisco by the end of next year or early 2006.

And American Airlines has established a partnership with Vietnam Airlines Corp. that allows them to complete journeys for each other's passengers. But American does not fly directly to Vietnam.

"The new United Airlines route is a new indicator of the strong relations between the United States and Vietnam," U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam Michael Marin said.



Actor David Hasselhoff and his wife, Pamela, board a United Airlines flight at San Francisco International Airport to Vietnam on Thursday. It is the first scheduled flight of a U.S. airline to Vietnam in almost 30 years. David Hasselhoff is bringing wheelchairs for the disabled on behalf of Wheels for Humanity.



SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/KEIT

From left, longtime friends Nguyen Xuan Binh, Nguyen Quy Hoi, Nguyen Khanh, Bui Quyet, and Do Chi gather each day at a downtown Hanoi, Vietnam, beer hall to talk about life and friendship.

Vietnam's beer industry booms

BY BEN STOCKING
San Jose Mercury News

HANOI, Vietnam — It is the simplest corner bar on earth: tiny plastic stools on the sidewalk; tables just a foot or two above the ground, laden with glasses of beer.

Aside from women pouring cheap, watery draft, these establishments are patronized almost entirely by chain-smoking Vietnamese men whose favorite refrain is *tram phan tram* — "100 percent" — as in, "drain your glass of every drop."

Bia hau, as the beer stalls are known, are a staple of Vietnamese life and the cornerstone of the nation's beer-drinking universe. But more and more, the urban beer market is going upscale to meet the evolving tastes and growing incomes of Vietnamese drinkers.

The bottled-beer market — one rung up from bia hau — has been enjoying double-digit growth for

several years. Upscale brew pubs are also starting to crop up, with more than a dozen opening in Hanoi in the last year to market high-end, homemade suds.

With prices up to \$2 a mug, they are aiming at a beer-drinking elite in a nation where per-capita income remains just \$480 a year.

"This is a very interesting industry — a rapidly growing industry," said former San Jose, Calif., resident Van Dinh Man, who opened a cavernous brew pub in a former Hanoi discotheque last year.

These days, only the true connoisseurs are heading to Vietnam's brew pubs. But many drinkers already have cultivated a taste for premium bottled beer.

Asia Pacific Breweries, which produces Heineken and Tiger beers, is planning a \$45 million expansion that will allow it to increase production by 50 percent.

South East Asia Brewery, which produces Carlsberg and

the local brand Halida, has enjoyed growth rates of more than 20 percent a year for the last four years.

Budweiser is also scouting out the market.

It is easy to find a cold bottle of Heineken for about 70 cents in Vietnam. A cold one at a Hanoi brew pub can cost almost twice that much. But business is booming.

Vietnam's brew pubs are similar to their American counterparts — homemade brew is made according to a secret recipe in giant copper tanks, lending an aura of connoisseurship.

As a developing nation, Vietnam's per capita beer consumption remains relatively low at roughly 12 liters a year.

But many Vietnamese who do drink beer tend to drink it in large quantities.

But like purveyors of alcohol everywhere, beer distributors here say they only encourage responsible drinking. And with the nation's thirst growing, their business prospects are bright.

OPEC to cut oil output

CAIRO, Egypt — Seeking to keep prices up without having them explode, OPEC agreed Friday to reduce its daily oil output by 1 million barrels a day — and reserved the right to cut deeper early next year if crude turns much cheaper than now.

The move represented a decision by OPEC to go down the middle, in a bid to prevent further revenue losses amid a recent downward price trend, while trying to reduce the kind of volatility that rocketed prices up to record highs earlier this year, leading producers scrambling to meet demand.

Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi said the cut will be implemented

starting Jan. 1. He told reporters that OPEC would meet again at month's end to review the cut's effect on prices, which have fallen sharply recently but remain high above previous established levels.

If effective, the output reduction would scale back output to the group's overall ceiling of 27 million barrels a day.

OPEC's two other options — doing nothing, and risking continued losses, or reducing the quota target and precipitating a new oil crisis — were clearly not appealing to members. Their decision to try and end quota busting appeared to be a bid to reduce the risks both ways.

Participate in our survey and you could win a laptop computer!

Stars and Stripes Wants to Know

We want to know about the products you buy and the services that interest you. Help us by filling out the survey you may find in this Stars and Stripes issue. Then mail it and we'll take care of the rest. It is that simple!

Drawing is optional; your information will not be shared. You must enter your name to participate.

STARS & STRIPES
Your HomeTown Newspaper
www.strips.com

IN THE STATES

Ohio shooter was obsessed with Pantera

BY ANITA CHANG
The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The man who shot former Pantera guitarist "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott and three other men to death at a nightclub was obsessed with the popular heavy metal band and made bizarre accusations against it, a one-time friend said in reports published Friday.

Jeremie Brey said gunman Nathan Gale once showed up at a friend's house saying he wanted to share songs he had written. The pages of lyrics were copied from Pantera, but Gale claimed he had written them, Brey said.

"He was off his rocker," Brey told The Columbus Dispatch. "He said they were his songs, that Pantera stole them from him and that he was going to sue them."

He later told Brey that he planned to sue Pantera for stealing his identity. Brey and friend Dave Johnson said Gale's behavior frightened them and they distanced themselves from him several years ago. But other friends said they never considered Gale capable of violence.

On Wednesday night, the 25-year-old former Marine charged the stage at a show by Abbott's new band, Damageplan,

and gunned down four people, including Abbott, before a policeman fatally shot him.

Police said Friday they still didn't know Gale's motive, and they may never find out. Some witnesses said Gale yelled accusations that the revered guitarist broke up Pantera, but police had not verified those reports.

An imposing figure at 6-foot-3, Gale had made people uneasy even at the tattoo parlor, staring and locking them into conversations about heavy metal music. When he played offensive line for the semi-professional Lima Thunder football team, he psych'd himself up before games by pipping

Pantera into his headphones, coach Mark Green said.

But Green had not pegged Gale as the type to go on a shooting rampage.

Gale had had minor run-ins with police since 1997 but wasn't considered a troublemaker, according to police in his hometown of Marysville, 25 miles northwest of Columbus.

Gale had served with the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina until November 2003, when he was discharged after less than half of the typical four-year stint, Marine spokeswoman Gunnery Sgt. Kristine Scarber said. She declined to

explain the discharge, citing privacy rules.

A few hours before the shooting, Gale had showed up at Marysville's Bears Den Tattoo Studio, where often he stared at people and forced them into conversations, manager Lucas Bender said.

On Wednesday, he asked about having the studio order tattoo equipment for him, tattoo artist Bo Toler said. Toler told him no, and Gale got angry and started yelling, he said.

No one answered the door Thursday at the Marysville home of Gale's mother, Mary Clark. A message left on her cell phone was not returned.

Bush pick for Energy post from Treasury

BY TERENCE HUNT
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush on Friday named Treasury deputy secretary Samuel Bodman as secretary of the Energy Department, filling one of the last openings in his second-term Cabinet.

Bodman "has shown himself to be a problem solver who knows how to set goals and knows how to reach them," Bush said at an announcement ceremony in the Roosevelt Room.

His major challenge will be to get Congress to enact energy legislation, including the president's longtime goal of opening an Arctic wildlife refuge in Alaska to oil drilling.

Bush said his priorities for the department are to "develop and deploy the latest technology to provide a new generation of cleaner and more efficient energy sources" and to "promote strong conservation measures."

"We will bring greater certainty of cost and supply and that certainty is essential to economic growth and job creation."

He pledged to renew his push for legislation codifying the energy plan he unveiled 3½ years ago, stymied by lawmakers despite Republican domination of Congress.

Bodman also will have to find a way to untangle both legal and budget problems that have threatened progress on getting a nuclear waste dump built at Nevada's Yucca Mountain.

Microsoft breaks case

FRISCO, Texas — Software giant Microsoft Corp. helped track down two brothers who authorities say sold bogus college degrees over the Internet.

Officials in Pennsylvania cracked the case, tracking down the source of thousands of unsolicited e-mails. Last week, they filed a lawsuit to shut down Trinity Southern University, run by Crain Burton Poe, 35, of Frisco, and Alton Scott Poe, 40, of St. Cloud, Fla.

From The Associated Press

THE BEST GIFTS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES.

It's small enough to fit in your pocket and costs as little as \$20, but it's easily the best gift you can give your loved ones this holiday season — the gift of your love. Military Access Prepaid Calling Cards from JENS Corporation can help bridge the distance and connect you to what matters most.

- ◆ 12.5¢/min to the U.S. **ANYTIME** from virtually **ANY** phone on or off-base!
- ◆ Great international calling rates to the Philippines, Australia, Thailand, and over 200 other countries.
- ◆ Call within Japan for as low as 12¢/min.
- ◆ No NTT charges or hidden fees.

NOW AVAILABLE: Special Edition Holiday Calling Cards, featuring magnificent mountain scenery. Available in two styles: Fuji Sky and Cherry Blossom. Supplies are limited, so get yours today!



Standard



Fuji Sky



Cherry Blossom

Available at JENS Personal Telecommunications Centers and select vending locations.

 JENS Corporation

GET IT ALL HERE. AND GET THERE.

AK

CHEVROLET
**GUAM
U.S.A.****AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

FEATURING THE CHEVY TRAILBLAZER.

Chevy Trucks are the most dependable, longest-lasting trucks
on the road!

- 275-horsepower Vortec six-cylinder engine
- Hydroformed steel frame and five-link rear suspension
- A mid-size SUV with an aggressive design
- Dependability that offers four-wheel disc brakes with ABS and towing capabilities up to 6,300 lbs.

Come visit AK Chevrolet in Guam
and see our large selection
of **CHEVY TRAILBLAZERS.**



ATKINS KROLL, INC. • 443 S. Marine Corps Dr. Tamuning, GU 96913 • Showroom Hrs: Mon-Fri 8am to 8pm Sat 8am to 6pm Sun 10am to 4pm • Tel: 671 646-1876 • akguam.com





Bissinger's claims its new Spa Chocolates contain ingredients linked to improved cardiovascular health, lowered risk for certain types of cancer, a reduction in body weight and a slowing of the aging process.

Shedding dollars and pounds: Maker claims costly treat is healthy

BY BETSY TAYLOR

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — "Shed your guilt. Chocolate can have a place in your healthy lifestyle."

That's the strategy of Bissinger's Handcrafted Chocolatier, a long-established, upscale chocolate company based in St. Louis.

Bissinger's new Spa Chocolate urges you to "treat yourself to good health." At a cost of more than \$2 a candy and named to conjure up images of pampering and well-being, it definitely qualifies as a treat.

As to the health, the elegant packaging says the candies contain ingredients "linked to improved cardiovascular health, lowered risk for certain types of cancer, a reduction in body weight and a slowing of the aging process."

From a blueberry cup to a sugar free walnut bear claw or cherry cordial, the bite-sized candies contain several ingredients believed to have some health benefits: dark chocolate, fruits and nuts.

But the health claims amount to a trick, said the director of nutrition at the Washington-based Center for Science in the Public Interest.

"The claims that these candies can help you lose weight, fight

cancer or improve your short-term memory are not supported by good evidence," said CSPI's Bonnie Liebman.

She said studies have been done on some, but not all, of the individual ingredients and the related claims, though Bissinger's said it had thoroughly researched the ingredients. And she didn't believe people would get enough of the ingredients to result in the rewards. That, she said, could be misleading at a time when two out of three Americans are overweight.

"The bottom line is they're trying to trick people into thinking these chocolates are good for them."

Not so, the chocolate company said.

Connie Diekmann, the university dietitian who helped develop the product, said eating one chocolate daily as part of good overall dietary habits can help people trying to start or maintain a healthy lifestyle. The candies come seven to a box for \$15.95, each candy labeled for a day of the week.

Cocoa beans contain plant chemicals called flavonoids, a kind of antioxidant that some studies have found can protect the heart; walnuts contain omega-3 fatty acids also linked to lower heart disease risk; apricots have healthful beta carotene.

Map of chicken genome reveals human-bird link

BY PETER GORNER

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — Scientists on Thursday published a detailed analysis of the newly mapped genome of the chicken — the first bird to have its genes cataloged — that is expected to bring advances in human health, agriculture and evolutionary biology.

The genetic map also may help science understand the cockiness of a strutting rooster and a nesting hen's commitment to her young — and why such inborn gender differences might be shared by species as different as chickens and humans.

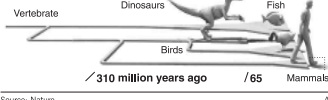
Since March, when the genome was made available to researchers, scientists have been comparing the chicken blueprint to the previously published genomes of humans, mice, rats and puffer fish.

It turns out that humans and chickens share more than half of the same genes, the scientists reported Thursday in the journal *Nature*, but their DNA diverged in ways that may explain some of the differences between birds and mammals.

By looking at the genomes of a

Bird genome sheds light on man's DNA

A new study compares the DNA of the chicken with that of the human. Their ancestral lineage has evolved separately beginning some 310 million years ago.



Source: Nature

AP

wide range of animals, scientists can better understand the structure and function of human genes and, ultimately, develop new strategies to improve human health, said Dr. Francis Collins, director of the Human Genome Research Institute.

"The chicken genome fills a crucial gap in our scientific knowledge," Collins said.

The sequencing project assumed new urgency with the emergence of bird flu epidemics in Asia, and among the important early findings is an immune system protein previously found

only in humans. Studies of the chicken immune system could lead to better ways to control viruses that sometimes jump across species and infect humans.

Project organizer Richard Wilson compares the chicken genome and other genetic maps to Rosetta Stones that help scientists help understand the human genome.

"For every human gene, there's a gene in another species that's going to be most helpful in understanding it," he said. "For some human genes, we might have to look to the mouse; for others, we'll look to the chicken."

Message for our men and women in uniform...

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

From coast to coast, thousands of Americans are grateful for what you do and want to show you that they care.

To see the actions and messages of support from these groups and individuals from all across America, visit www.stripes.com.

This is just a small token of appreciation, a way to say...

AMERICA
SUPPORTS
★ YOU ★
OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN



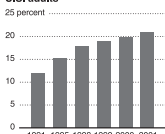
Please visit the site at www.stripes.com and click on the America Supports You button to view the messages of support and to submit your own thank you notes as well!

STARS AND STRIPES
Your Hometown Newspaper

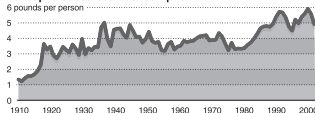
A little chocolate isn't that bad

With obesity rates increasing yearly, the thought of "healthy" chocolate is tempting. One company is offering chocolates with 54 calories and 5 grams of net carbs. Experts warn the healthy claims aren't supported by strong evidence.

Obesity prevalence among U.S. adults



Per capita cocoa bean consumption



Study unveils positive results for new method to detect cancer spread

BY MARILYNN MARCHIONE
The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Removing just one to three key lymph nodes instead of the usual dozen or more can spare women lifelong arm problems and reliably indicate whether breast cancer has spread and needs aggressive treatment, the first big study to test this approach has found.

Many doctors have been doing this without proof that it is as good as the standard operation, and they still don't know whether it will hurt women's survival odds.

But the large, federally funded study has answered at least the accuracy question, finding that the less severe surgery is 97 percent accurate at revealing whether cancer has spread beyond the breast.

"There is a high degree of accuracy here," said Dr. Thomas Julian, a breast cancer surgeon at Drexel University College of Medicine and Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh. "This offers an option for the majority of women."

He presented the research Thursday at a breast cancer conference in Texas.

Dr. Stephen Edge, a surgeon at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y., called it "a landmark study that many of us, including me, thought was undebatable," because so many women already demand the less severe surgery.

When a woman has breast cancer surgery, doctors typically remove a third of the lymph nodes in her arm — about 10 to 20 to see if the cancer has spread. The answer determines whether she

needs further treatment with chemotherapy and radiation.

But the surgery leaves many women with motion problems and less feeling in their shoulder and arm, and up to 20 percent develop lymphedema, painful and severe arm swelling that can recur throughout their lives. They also are at greater risk of infection because they have lost so many lymph nodes that drain fluid from the arm.

"Patients often get caught by friendly fire," suffering ill effects from a procedure intended to help save their lives, said Dr. Mark Kassis of the Royal Surrey County Hospital in Guildford, England.

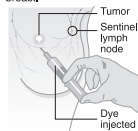
The alternative is called sentinel node biopsy. At the time of a woman's breast cancer surgery, doctors inject a dye that travels and collects in the lymph nodes most involved in draining the area nearest the tumor. The theory is that these "sentinel nodes" would be most likely to contain malignant cells if the cancer had spread beyond the breast.

Julian's study involved 5,260 women in one of the longest-running clinical studies ever, the National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project. It is known for such watershed findings as proving that removing just a cancerous lump was as good as removing the entire breast for most women, and establishing the benefits of chemotherapy and tamoxifen.

All women in the new study had an average of three sentinel nodes taken out. Half then went on to have the usual 10 to 20 nodes removed. The others had fewer nodes removed only if the sentinel ones had cancer.

Sentinel node biopsy

A new study shows that analyzing the lymph node closest to the tumor is sufficient to determine if cancer has spread beyond the breast.



A dye is injected into the lymphatic system to identify the closest node or the "sentinel node," most likely to contain malignant cells.

Source: National Cancer Institute



Nyika Crawford, 10, plays a Game Boy hand-held electronic game Tuesday while she is prepped for surgery by her doctors Anu Patel, left, John Kakauberi, center, and nurse Lizzie Jacobs at University Hospital in Newark, N.J. Researchers have found letting children play Game Boy prevents anxiety before surgery.

Study: Game Boy relaxes children before surgery

BY LINDA A. JOHNSON
The Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Letting children play video games on a Game Boy in the operating room before undergoing surgery can help relax them better than tranquilizers or holding Mommy's hand, researchers say.

Doctors found that allowing children a few minutes to play the games reduced their anxiety until the anesthesia took effect.

Dr. Anu Patel conducted the study after noticing a friend's 7-year-old son was so absorbed with his Game Boy at a restaurant that he ignored the adults and the food at his table.

"We find that the children are just so happy with the Game Boy that they actually do forget where they are," said Patel, an anesthesiologist at University Hospital in Newark who plans to present her findings Saturday at a medical conference.

Patel said the findings could be helpful because many parents do not want tranquilizers given to their children.

Youngsters who are traumatized before surgery run the risk of long-term psychological problems, including nightmares, bed wetting and fear of being alone.

In addition, strapping a restless, frightened child to an operating table can cause a temporary blood pressure spike, make the heart race and trigger stress hormones that can delay healing, said Patel,

also an assistant professor at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

Other hospitals long have used teddy bears and games to distract children before surgery, but those techniques generally are employed in patient rooms, playrooms and waiting areas, not in the operating room. At Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, kids are encouraged to play in waiting areas before surgery and to take a "comfort item" — occasionally a Game Boy — into the operating room.

A Boston company, Design Continuum Inc., has begun testing a combination anesthesia mask and headset that would allow patients to play video games or listen to music, but distribution is years away.

Patel studied 4- to 12-year-olds in three groups of 26 children each. All had parents with them in the operating room until they were anesthetized. One group also got a tranquilizer, and the third group played with a Game Boy.

On average, the Game Boy group showed no increase in anxiety before surgery. But on a standard, 100-point scale for measuring preoperative anxiety, the tranquilizer group jumped 7.5 points and the parents-only group jumped 17.5 points.

Shant Willis, whose 10-year-old daughter Nyika had a cyst removed at the Newark hospital Tuesday, said the girl was nervous until she got a Game Boy. She then relaxed and played with it until she was anesthetized. "It was like she put everything out of her mind," Willis said.

Study: Implanted defibrillators only help six months after heart attack

The Associated Press

Implanting defibrillators in patients just weeks after a heart attack does not improve their chances of survival, according to an international study. The researchers suggested instead that patients wait several months before having one of the devices inserted in the chest.

The findings could have big implications for Medicare, which is about to expand coverage for the \$25,000 devices to many more people.

Implanted defibrillators, such

as the one Vice President Dick Cheney has, shock the heart back into a normal rhythm when it starts beating irregularly. Research has shown these devices save lives, but these studies were done almost exclusively on patients six months to several years after their heart attack.

The study found that defibrillators offer little benefit in the early days after a heart attack, when patients with damaged and weakened heart muscle are most likely to die. In the study, reported in Thursday's New England Journal

of Medicine, lives saved among patients who suffered abnormal rhythms were canceled out by deaths from heart problems unrelated to rhythm.

For doctors, this finding will complicate deciding exactly when to install the devices, and in which patients.

In the United States, doctors usually wait at least one to three months after a patient's heart attack before implanting a defibrillator, said American Heart Association spokesman Dr. Kenneth Ellenbogen, a professor at Medical College of Virginia.

University of Phoenix is seeking faculty.

Join the largest university in the United States, as a full or part time member of the faculty! The University of Phoenix delivers graduate degree programs in Business and Education at four locations in mainland Japan and Guam. If you possess a graduate degree in either Business Management (MBA), Accounting, or Education, have held the graduate degree for at least two years, and are interested in joining our team in a full or part time capacity, please send a resume and contact information to:

Dr. Barbara Turner

Director Academic Affairs, Military Programs, Asia

DSN: 634-6879 (Primary) or 634-1951

Commercial Access: 011-81-611-734-6879/1951

Barbara.Turner@phoenix.edu



University of
Phoenix.

People from all over flock to Clinton store

Former president is among the customers at new library's shop

BY DAVID HAMMER

The Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — A meowing Socks the Cat doll could show up in a stocking stuffed by former President Bill Clinton this year.

Clinton is among thousands of people from around the world who have spent more than \$400,000 at the Clinton Museum Store since it opened Nov. 15.

The former president placed a phone order from Chappaqua, N.Y., on Thursday, calling museum store manager Connie Falls to order a commemorative Clinton Presidential Library dedication dinner plate, two plates by Picard china and a Woodmere china reproduction of the plates Presidents Lincoln and Jackson used when they were in the White House.

He also ordered silk scarves that his library's volunteer staff wears, Air Force One toys that emit the sound of plane engines when squeezed, neckties, stuffed donkeys and a Socks the Cat doll that says "meow."

"I'm still totaling up the bill. Yes, he has to pay for it," Falls said.

The gift shop two blocks from the Clinton Library was bustling at the seams during the dedication celebration three weeks ago, and sales didn't slow much after the international visitors left town.

Over Thanksgiving weekend, store employees had to stop shop-

pers at the door to make sure they didn't exceed capacity. And just when lines weren't forming down President Clinton Avenue anymore, the museum store replaced that volume by starting Internet sales.

"We sent out an e-mail to 1,200 people Monday night that they could shop online, and by the time we opened the next morning we had 40 orders," Falls said.

Tyler Denton, marketing director for the Clinton Foundation, which built the library and set up the museum store, suggested putting maps of the United States and the world in an unfinished hallway by the exit door with pushpins available for customers. The maps already tell the story of the store's popularity and Little Rock's sudden global appeal. Shoppers have marked every continent except Antarctica with the red pins.

The visitors come to see the library, but they are pulled into the rest of Little Rock by the museum store, which sits between the library and the downtown River Market district.

"This week I had visitors from Jackson, Miss., and Topeka, Kan., tell me, 'You're a weekend getaway now,'" Denton said.

"Slowly but surely, people will come here to see all our attractions."

Meanwhile, Falls, a veteran Little Rock retailer, has barely had time to breathe. She has yet to leave the store before 10 p.m. and, until last week, was there until midnight every night.

Faith Christian Fellowship Church

"Cultivated to Grow and Empowered to Go"

Church for all people! Come worship the Lord with us.

REGULAR CHURCH SERVICES

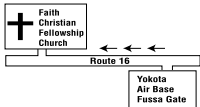
5:00 am - 6:00 am Morning Prayer (Daily)
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Noonday Prayer (Tues/Wed/Thur)
7:00 p.m. Thursday Night Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship
6:00 p.m. 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday Night Service

Please visit us at our website:

www.fcfjapan.org



Pastor James A. J.
Monica Saffold



"Parking available on base near Fussa Gate for DoD ID Card holders"
Parking for all other visitors will be made available at the church

WALL STREET HOUSE

PRESENTS

Forces Night Every Friday

MILITARY ID GETS YOU ¥500 DRINKS ALL NIGHT!!!

A GREAT PLACE TO PARTY IN ROPPONGI

LADIES SHOW YOUR ID AND GET 1ST DRINK ON THE HOUSE

WALLSTREET HOUSE IS YOUR PLACE IN ROPPONGI

WALLSTREET HOUSE
03-3586-0874

Yokota Baptist Church

Pastor Warren Webster

日本語訳もあります YBC services are interpreted in Japanese

REACHING THE MILITARY AND JAPAN, ONE PERSON AT A TIME

Yokota Christian Academy M-F

Sunday

Early Service 0830

Sunday School 1000

Morning Service 1100

Evening Service 1800

Monday

Faith Bible Institute 1830

Tuesday

Soul Winning & Visitation 1830

Wednesday

Evening Service & Prayer Mtg 1900

Patch & Pee Wee Clubs 1900

Friday

Awana Club 1900

Monthly

Mens Prayer Breakfast 1st Sat

Ladies Meeting 1st Sat

CH__CH

What is missing?

0425-52-7254

www.yokotabaptistchurch.org

At Fussa Gate: Left on 16 to light. Turn right. Take next left. Church on left.

Secrets behind SpongeBob SquarePants

BY ANTHONY BREZNICAN
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — America's favorite deep-sea sponge is coming to the surface.

SpongeBob SquarePants, a goofy pink utensil who wears a little brown suit and lives in a pineapple at the bottom of the ocean, has spent the past five years on the Nickelodeon TV channel. Now a new animated film sends him to a "real world" both simple and surreal.

Here are five little-known facts about "The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie" and the origin of a cartoon cult icon:

1. The birth of SpongeBob: The movie's director and "SpongeBob" creator Stephen Hillenburg was a former marine science teacher who wanted to do a sea cartoon. "I really wanted to do something about one character, based on an innocent who is surrounded by more cynical beings... A sort of awkward, nerdy goofball, oddball," he said.

Fish seemed too ordinary, so he started thinking about a sponge.

2. Helium voice: Tom Kenny, who supplies SpongeBob's high, nasal voice, was a standup comic who worked with Hillenburg on the 1993 animal cartoon series "Rocko's Modern World." When

"SpongeBob" started in 1999, Hillenburg remembered an obscure character Kenny did years earlier, and envisioned it as the voice of his weird sea hero.

"It was in one episode in a crowd scene," Kenny recalled. "In the voice-over world we call the sound 'walla,' just a crowd of people mumbling and grumbling. Steve remembered I had done this squawly, helium-voiced guy. Just a total throwaway voice."

Kenny had to go back and re-watch the episode to remember how to do it.

3. Nine times as absorbent: Most half-hour SpongeBob TV episodes are made of 10-minute

shorts, so the new 90-minute film required a different kind of story: SpongeBob and his slowwitted starfish friend Patrick travel to the surface to rescue the crown of temperamental King Neptune.

4. Bald spot: Among the movie's celebrity voices is Jeffrey Tambor as the overly angry King Neptune, whose missing crown reveals his balding baldness. Tambor, the criminal father from the Emmy-winning comedy "Arrested Development" and the pathetic "Hey, now!" announcer from "The Larry Sanders Show," said he shares the follicle-challenged sag of the character, but not his insecurities.

"I don't have those issues. I look

lousy in a rug," Tambor said. "I worked because of being bald, so I'm blessed. I mean, I was the guy in summer stock [theater] who played all the old guys at 16."

5. Patrick the starfish: Bill Fagerbakke, best known as Dauber from TV's "Coach," has a naturally deep voice, but has to swallow it further to play SpongeBob's dopey starfish friend Patrick.

The result, he said, is an audible version of the fat-skinny look of comedy teams like Laurel and Hardy or Abbott and Costello — Patrick is the immense rumbler and SpongeBob is the high-pitched whiner. "I just kinda pretend my mouth is in my chest and I just slowwwww down," Fagerbakke said.

SAN DIEGO L.A.
IACE TRAVEL NETWORK
www.iace.co.jp/english
SEATTLE ATLANTA

IACE TRAVEL HOT NEWS
GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO/FROM NARITA FREE JOIN IACE TABI CLUB Get travel specials thru the Email!

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL!
LOS ANGELES \$400~ 1/24-2/2
USA EAST SELECTED 1CITY \$523~ 1/24-28

EARLY BIRD ASIA SPECIAL!
SINGAPORE \$352~ 1/24-1/31
HONG KONG \$322~ 1/15-1/31 (Emp.Sat)
SEOUL \$198~ 1/15-1/31 (Emp.Fri)
MANILA \$394~ 1/16-1/21
SHANGHAI \$311~ 1/24-1/21

OCEANIA SPECIAL!
SYDNEY \$674~ 1/19-1/21
PERTH \$863~ 1/19-1/21

MILITARY SPECIAL!
GUAM/SAIPAN \$333~
HONOLULU \$692~

FROM FUKUOKA
FLYING TO MANILA SPECIAL
GOOD FOR 14 DAYS \$358~ 1/15-1/31
GOOD FOR 14 DAYS \$578~ 1/15-1/31
GOOD FOR 2 MONTH \$488~ 1/15-1/31

—EARLY BIRD JANUARY SPECIAL (ASK CONDITIONS)
USA! \$168~ ASK DATE **HONG KONG \$308~** ASK DATE

USA! (CITY) \$988~ 1/4-1/20
NEW YORK \$568~ 1/4-1/23
LOS ANGELES \$478~ 1/4-1/23
HONOLULU \$448~ 1/10-1/31

GUAM \$340~
BANGKOK \$388~ 1/15-1/31
SEOUL \$198~ ASK DATES

Package Tour
GUAM FREE PLAN 4DAYS \$508~ ASK DATES **HONOLULU FREE \$618~** ASK DATES
*FOR DOMESTIC, RESERVATION MUST BE DONE 30 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. *PRICES DEPEND ON HOTELS AND FLIGHTS. PLEASE ASK DETAILS AND BOOKING.

FROM HIROSHIMA
SEUL \$168~ 1/4-1/31 (THU)
MANILA \$528~ 1/15-1/31 (SAT)
BANGKOK \$578~ 1/15-1/31 (TUE)
LOS ANGELES \$588~ 1/4-1/20 (THU)
LONDON \$678~ 1/24-1/31 (THU)

Package Tour
OKINAWA 2DAYS \$388~
(IN ECONOMY HOTEL 1221-1228) (SUN-FRI)
*FOR DOMESTIC, RESERVATION MUST BE DONE 10 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. *PRICES DEPEND ON HOTELS AND FLIGHTS. PLEASE ASK DETAILS AND BOOKING.

For YOKOSUKA OTHER KANTO US&L CUSTOMERS
046-828-6271
FAX: 046-828-6755
e-mail: ysk@iace.co.jp
MON-FRI 9:00-18:30 SAT 9:00-17:00

For ATSUJIKI, ZAMA CUSTOMERS
264-6297/8
FAX: 0407-70-0851
e-mail: atb@iace.co.jp
MON-FRI 9:00-18:00

For YOKOTA CUSTOMERS
042-539-4430
FAX: 042-539-4432
e-mail: yk@iace.co.jp
MON-FRI 9:00-18:00 SAT 10:00-17:00

For IWAKUNI CUSTOMERS
0120-977-433
FAX: 025-245-1131
e-mail: iuk@iace.co.jp
MON-FRI 10:00-18:00 SAT 10:00-17:00

For Sasebo CUSTOMERS
0120-922-154
FAX: 025-245-1131
e-mail: fuk@iace.co.jp
MON-FRI 10:00-18:00 SAT 10:00-17:00

For MISAWA CUSTOMERS
0120-655-4223
FAX: 011-219-2706
e-mail: spk@iace.co.jp
MON-FRI 10:00-18:00 SAT 10:00-17:00

JAPAN DOMESTIC PACKAGE
— BULLET TRAIN & HOTEL —
ONSEN KYOTO 2DAYS \$185~
HIROSHIMA 2DAYS \$224~
KYOTO&HIROSHIMA 3DAYS \$358~

INTERNATIONAL PACKAGE
(INDEPENDENT OCCUPANCY ARRANGEMENT)
GUAM 4DAYS MILITARY SPECIAL \$498~
SINGAPORE 4DAYS \$580~
BANGKOK 4DAYS \$617~
BEIJING 4DAYS \$610~
HONG KONG 4DAYS \$594~

SAPPORO SNOW FESTIVAL 2005
IACE TRAVEL English escorted tour
FROM **TOKYO**
5 Feb **\$665** 5 Feb **\$798**
FROM FROM FROM
AOMORI 5 Feb \$675 **HIROSHIMA 5 Feb \$795** **FUKUOKA 5 Feb \$645**

***Tour Includes:**
• Round trip airfare ticket
• Nightlife Dinner Class Hotel (Located at center of the city)
• Sightseeing tour for 1st day & 2nd day included
• Daily breakfast at hotel
• One dinner tour for 1st day (BBQ or Seafood)
• All applicable taxes
• Please ask agents for more detail

Good News!
GET \$10 OFF COUPON
with purchase of \$500 or more (per ticket)!!
*Only available when you come to our Yokosuka/Atsugi/Yokota office
*This coupon is valid after your next international trip from Japan
*Other restrictions may apply. Please ask agent for more details!

IMPORTANT (Other restrictions may apply)
Cancellation prices and cash payments
Credit cards accepted (Visa/Master/Amex/Discover)
Prize may vary depending on departure date.
Tax not included in these prices.
Please inform us if you read about these prices in Stars & Stripes.
* means starting from those prices
Japan Domestic Package require 10days advance.
Last minute booking OK!

FROM MISAWA
LOS ANGELES \$680~ 1/14-1/31 MON-FRI
NEW YORK \$730~ 1/14-1/31 MON-FRI
— LAST DATE TO PURCHASE: 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE —

DECEMBER PACKAGE SPECIAL
JANUARY PACKAGE
(INCLUDES AN HOTEL BREAK IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY)
OSAKA/KYOTO 3DAYS \$320~
TOKYO 2DAYS \$257~
FUKUOKA 3DAYS \$417~

SAN DIEGO L.A. WASHINGTON D.C. DALLAS LAS VEGAS HONOLULU WEST L.A. COLUMBUS

RELIGION

Serving God and country

U.S. military hopes upcoming USFK retreat will help Army replace dwindling number of Catholic priests

BY TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — The U.S. Army and its chaplains are helping the Catholic Church recruit priests who could serve in the Pacific theater.

The effort is not altogether new. Military officials are constantly looking for ordained ministers of various faiths to ensure each service branch has enough religious leaders for the men and women stationed throughout the world.

But the need for Catholic priests in the military, and especially in the U.S. Army, has grown so dire that chaplains are reaching out to men who aren't even in seminary yet. The idea is to recruit from within the ranks and attract men who might be interested in serving both their God and their country.

"This is part of the intent, for young men who are wrestling with the call, to reach out to them," said Col. Samuel Boone, a Christian Church Disciples of Christ minister and 8th Army command chaplain.

So for the second year, U.S. Forces Korea is holding a three-day retreat — from Dec. 27 to Dec. 29 — for men who might be interested in becoming priests. Any man in the Pacific theater, civilian or military, is invited. The chaplains have a small reserve fund to help with travel costs, and they are asking commanders to consider granting "permissive temporary duty status," or free leave, to those who want to attend.

About a quarter of the people in the military are Catholic, according to Boone and Navy Capt. James L. Danner, himself a priest who also serves as the Pacific area command chaplain. Yet there aren't enough priests to minister to that many Catholics, Danner said during an interview in Seoul last week.

"We're so short on priests," Danner said. "We just had a 78-year-old lieutenant, active duty Navy, retire. He had his 20 years in."

The military tries to provide one minister for every 1,000 servicemen of a particular

faith. By Danner's reckoning, the Navy should have 250 priests to serve Catholic sailors. He expects to have half that many next year.

"The shortages have been there," Danner said, adding that the average age of all military chaplains is 38. "But people are really hitting the panic button."

In the Army, the numbers are worse.

In 1977, there were 260 Catholic priests who served as Army chaplains. Now there about 90, a 65 percent decrease, according to Father Vince Burns, an Army chaplain who is retired but serving full time in Area II, which includes Yongsan and Seoul. Seventeen other priests in the Army also have agreed to work during retirement to address the shortage, Burns said.

Next week, military chaplains are planning a similar session at West Point for Jewish personnel, according to Maj. F. Richard Spencer, a chaplain with the chief of chaplains office in Arlington, Va. There are 12 slots for rabbis within the military, but only four



Father Vince Burns gives communion Wednesday to Lt. Mike Rounds, an engineer with the Combined Forces Command at the Memorial Chapel at Yongsan Garrison in Seoul. Burns is a retired Army chaplain who is serving a two-year assignment in Seoul. The Army has a "retired and retained" program that allows religious leaders to come out of retirement to fill the empty chaplain slots in the service.

PHOTO BY TERI WEAVER
Stars and Stripes

assignments are filled, Danner said.

The retreat last year in Seoul proved encouraging, Boone said. Nine men attended, and two are now in seminary.

Boone and Danner both said the recruitment effort meets the military's goal of trying to provide religious services while men and women are stationed away from home. The military has chaplains from dozens of denominations and religions, they said, including Christian, Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist, Boone said.

"So the ACLU is going to come in and say — separation of church and state?" Danner lightly-heartedly asked Boone during a meeting last week while they talked about the upcoming retreat.

"Not so far," Boone replied. "About 20 people have expressed interest this year, including two men in Japan, Boone said. Anyone interested in the retreat can call 725-6009 (DSN) or e-mail boones@korea.army.mil.

E-mail Teri Weaver at: weaver@spstrs.osd.mil

New Year's Eve

Las Vegas Night

Friday, December 31 from 1800 to 0100
in Speakeasy Casino on 4th floor of Fleet Rec

Don't miss the biggest party of the year!

We'll have roulette, Black Jack, poker, 21, slot machines and more. Play bingo for \$50,000 in prizes including \$25,000 guaranteed jackpot and additional games worth \$5,000, \$3,000 & \$2,000!

- Enjoy a live band, dancing, DJs, party favors, champagne and lots of free food!
- No host bar and transportation from Ikego & Negishi available
- Awards for best 1920s era costume

Advance Bingo & Casino Package, \$60; Additional Packages, \$40;
At-the-Door, \$80; Casino Package only, \$25

\$25,000
GUARANTEED
JACKPOT

Friday, December 31 thru Saturday, January 01 from 1800 to 1000
CDC New Year's Eve Special Opening

Parents can enjoy our New Year's celebration, too! Reservations for option 1 or 2 must be made and pre-paid in person by Monday, December 27 at Main CDC. Cancellations must be made by 1700 Thursday, December 30 to receive a full refund.

Option 1 offers childcare from 1800 Friday thru 0200 Saturday for \$45 per child

Option 2 offers childcare from 1800 Friday thru 1000 Saturday, including breakfast, for \$65 per child



'Warrior monk' fulfills his calling in Iraq

By JACKIE SPINNER

The Washington Post

HASWAH, Iraq — His flak jacket was covered in dried blood, his blood. Look at the stains, Marine Lance Cpl. June N. Ramos said, pointing. There were dark red smears all over the front of his camouflage vest.

Ramos reached into the pocket of the flak jacket and pulled out a small silver tin wrapped in a plastic bag. He opened the container, which held a half-dozen Communion wafers.

"Instead of putting a grenade in here," Ramos said, fastening the pocket of his vest, "I put the body of Christ."

They call him the "warrior monk." Ramos, 32, was studying to be a Benedictine monk when he joined the Marines in 2003. He wants to be a chaplain, but first, he said, he must live the life of a Marine grunt.

So this is where he was on a crisp morning in Iraq, guarding a police station in this city 25 miles south of the capital, barbed wire surrounding the complex where he had slept fitfully in the cold air.

"I'm a Filipino citizen, serving in the United States Marines, fighting for the United States," he said, his body upright and at attention while he talked.



WASHINGTON POST/LATVP

Marine Lance Cpl. June N. Ramos, 32, displays the Communion wafers he carries. He has escaped serious injury more than once during his tour in Iraq.

Ramos had just returned to duty after being hit by shrapnel from an improvised bomb in October. It was not the first time he had been hurt.

He picked up his helmet, which had a small wooden cross hanging from it, and showed the chin strap that probably saved his life. The strap was torn, shredded by the metal that had hit it before

going into Ramos's neck. Metal lodged in a sinus cavity and his gums — but it had been slowed enough that he survived. He remembered the experience clearly — the explosion and then the pain.

When he was in the field hospital in Baghdad, Ramos said, he knew he had to return to the field. He had work to do. He is the man

who administers Communion to Roman Catholic Marines on the front; his job was not done yet.

"This is my calling, the reason why I am here," said Ramos, a slight man with an impish grin. He was bundled up for the cold, his green, Marine-issued scarf pulled tight over his head to cover his ears. He also wore a black stocking cap, like those worn by the rest of his platoon buddies in 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

He keeps surviving, Ramos said. He has been in mortar attacks, mine explosions, the roadside bomb attack that cut his neck. In any other place, he might feel invisible, but Ramos knows that danger does not start and stop. He has not yet made it out.

"God is always with me," Ramos said. "He's always there watching."

He was walking through a field a few months ago when a mine exploded. The sound was so loud that he thought for sure he'd been hit. He was covered in dust, feeling for his legs, when he realized he was walking. He was intact.

A few weeks later, he was in a concrete bunker that fellow Marines were reinforcing with sandbags. It collapsed on him, pinning him on his side. "I was so very lucky," Ramos said. He escaped with a large bruise on his ribs.

Before he became a Marine, Ramos was studying at a monastery in Abiquiu, N.M., an isolated spot on a dirt road near the Chama River. After he serves his four-year tour in the Marines, Ramos said, he intends to return to his theological studies and become a monk.

His fellow Marines respect the life he has chosen, he said. "They totally understand. We are in war, but still God is watching over us."

The hospital in Baghdad where Ramos recovered from the bomb blast in October had a special hallway reserved for insurgents who had been wounded and were being patched up by military doctors. Ramos said he was angry, hurt, in pain, but he decided to walk down that hallway.

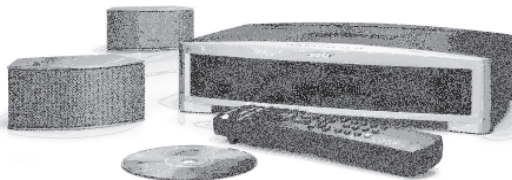
"God told me not to be angry," Ramos said. "I pretty much quoted what Jesus said on the cross. I prayed that they would know the real presence of God, that God would guard them and protect them."

He came back to his unit about two weeks ago, a man who had forgiven and was ready to fight again, Ramos said. He would not dream of being anywhere else.

"I trust in God and keep the faith," Ramos said. "If God is with me, who can be against me, right? Be not afraid, that's what I say."

NEW

A different kind of home theater system.



Home theater. To get the full experience you need more than just a TV.

It's the combination of the sound and what you see that brings it all to life. The cheer of the crowd at a sports game. The intensity of a chase scene. But conventional home theater systems are complicated. Five big speakers. A rack of complex equipment. A tangle of wires.

The new 3-2-1 GS Series II system is different. It uses only two visible speakers and a hideaway Acoustimass® module to deliver much of the performance of a five-speaker system. No center or rear speakers, which means no wiring to the back of your room. A new, elegant media center with built-in DVD/CD player and AM/FM tuner replaces a stack of equipment. Get ready for the thrilling sound of movies, music, TV and sports. Experience the 3-2-1 GS Series II system for yourself. Don't just watch TV. Make it come alive with performance and simplicity from Bose, the most respected name in sound.



Available from your AAFES, NEX and MCX exchange or
www.aafes.com

BOSE
Better sound through research

OPINION

What newspapers are saying at home

The following editorial excerpts are selected from a cross section of newspapers throughout the United States. The editorials are provided by The Associated Press and other statewide syndicates.

Alabama can't get past it
The Times-Picayune, New Orleans

The remnants of segregation continued to exist in the constitutions and statutes of Southern states long after federal laws made them moot.

By now, though, most official vestiges of Jim Crow ought to have disappeared as states crafted modern constitutions or stripped offensive language out of old documents. Not so in Alabama.

The state still uses its 1901 Constitution, which was written expressly to deny voting rights and a decent education to African-Americans. What's worse, voters refused this fall to remove language supporting segregation from the 103-year-old document.

How close to segregation, even if it is only on paper and is unenforceable, will hold the state back. Alabama has a hateful history on racial issues, a history that has affected its image and limited its ability to thrive economically.

This was a chance to walk away from the past and show the world that Alabama has changed. The truth may be that it hasn't changed much after all.

Game's shame chamber empty
The Buffalo (N.Y.) News

Americans have been fascinated by video games ever since someone figured out a way to play a simple game of pingpong on a television screen. Thirty years later, video games have reached a level of sophistication that rivals the best military battlefield simulation.

Who has the good taste hasn't kept pace.

The game has gone too far in a computer simulation titled, "JFK Reloaded," in which players re-create the 1963 assassination of a U.S. president. Gamers "kill" three shots at President Kennedy's car from Lee Harvey Oswald's re-created sixth-floor perch in the Texas School Book Depository. There's a possible prize for exact replication of the real shots, and points are deducted for mistakes, such as hitting the first lady. The game, if it can be termed as such, was released on Nov. 22, the 41st anniversary of the shooting in Dallas.

Family members have described it as "despicable." This may not go far enough in describing just how low the Scotland-based firm Traffic, designer of the game, sank in marketing what it inexcusably calls an educational "docu-game" intended to refute the theory that a conspiracy was behind the assassination.

This isn't about free speech, it's about decency. "JFK Reloaded" trivializes an awful period in this nation's history.

Even though speech is protected under the Constitution, there are limits. ... [E]ncouraging even the play-acting of such violence isn't in the best interest of anyone.

Warning labels all must read
The Cincinnati Enquirer

While a Food and Drug Administration committee reviewing Procter & Gamble's testosterone patch for women didn't say no [this month], it clearly said "slow down."

The advisory group wants to see broader, more controlled testing of the "passion patch," which P&G said will restore sexual desire in women whose ovaries have been removed.

There is a fine balance between necessary caution and unnecessary delays in getting new drugs to market. While a setback to P&G, caution is an appropriate message for drug manufacturers, the FDA itself and even consumers.

Consumers seem more willing to try a drug whose long-term effects may not be known, even for ailments such as acne that



"I BOUGHT YOU SOMETHING TO WEAR THAT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL SEXY."

are not life-threatening. That lack of consumer worry may be one reason the FDA committee worried so much over long-term effects for the patch, Intrinsa. ... Others said it only made sense to use caution when weighing Intrinsa's modest results.

It's a model for the sort of critical thinking consumers, too, should exhibit in a world where there's a pill for anything and everything that ails you.

Can workers keep account?
St. Petersburg (Fla.) Times

President Bush seems determined to privatize part of Social Security by allowing individual workers to invest a portion of their retirement payments in the stock market. ... Can individuals rely on themselves to make the best investment choices? A recent article in The Wall Street Journal suggests that the answer may be no.

One study of the difference in performance between professionally managed pension funds and self-directed 401(k)s found that the pension funds earned almost 0.5 percent more each year.

This will be tricky ground for Bush to tread. If the personal account offerings under Social Security are too limited or too much, the effort might be seen as nothing more than a payoff to Wall Street. If too little guidance is made available, then workers could end up with a false notion that their retirements are more secure than they really are.

Minors' policy all the rage
The Times Union, Albany, N.Y.

Either baseball demonstrates that it understands the magnitude of the steroids scandal, or the government is going to have to intervene to save it from itself.

Baseball's reigning slugger, Barry Bonds, has been caught, or something quite close to it, using steroids. ... Jason Giambi of the New York Yankees, not so long ago a rather remarkable hitter himself, has admitted using steroids. And both of them are almost sure to get away with it.

The drug-testing policy in the major leagues is a joke. ... The first time a player is caught using steroids, it's mandatory counseling. The next time—and remember, testing only occurs once a season—it's a 15-day suspension. It would take five positive tests before a player could be banned for as long as a year.

Such is the recipe for the mess baseball finds itself in.

Congress has the power ... to impose a new policy on the players, the owners and the enablers in the commissioner's office.

A sensible policy is out there, in baseball's minor leagues. Players are tested four times a year, and the first documented instance of using steroids means an automatic suspension. The race is on to see who first embraces it, for the good of the game.

FDA should think safety first
Los Angeles Times

The Food and Drug Administration over the past decade has shifted its budget away from monitoring the safety of drugs on the market, focusing more and more on approving new medicines. That policy has an obvious side effect: Time after time, the agency has been slow to respond to evidence about the dangers of drugs on the market.

The FDA has wandered from its central mission. Patient safety should always come first, whether it's a new drug or an old drug.

It took the FDA four years to respond to evidence that Vioxx increased the risk of heart attacks. Why so long? A recent New York Times story, examining the flow of funds inside the FDA, explains it this way: Roughly a decade ago, about half of the agency's money went drug safety and other areas, the other half to approving new drugs. Now, nearly 80 percent of the money goes to approving new drugs.

The FDA must show it is more than an efficient reviewer of new drugs. One way to start is to reorder priorities, and that means restoring the ranks of monitors who are watchdogs for drugs already on the market.

Law schools lay down law
The Washington Post

A federal appeals court decision to strike down the so-called Solomon Amendment highlights the layers of bad policy that have led to an unfortunate stalemate between the military and a group of law schools. The amendment, named for the late Rep. Gerald B.H. Solomon, R-N.Y., cuts off federal money to universities that don't treat military recruiters as favorably as these recruiting for other potential employers. Numerous law schools, because of the military's policy toward gays and lesbians, balked at assisting military recruiters, on the grounds that school policies forbid helping organizations that discriminate. When the military, after

the Sept. 11 attacks, started enforcing the law more aggressively, the law schools went to court.

While the legal merits of the case are complicated, the government's moral position is indefensible. The underlying policy of discriminating against gays and lesbians is an affront to patriotic Americans who wish to serve their country. The policy makes homosexual servicemen/denies deny who they are, though there is no evidence that they are has any detrimental impact on their ability to serve. ... The Solomon Amendment then adds insult to injury by forcing universities to become complicit in the insulting and damaging rule. These rules are offensive, and the solution is to abolish them.

In the meantime, however, the law schools face a difficult question. They would never allow a private employer who openly discriminated against gays and lesbians—or, for that matter, against Catholics or African-Americans—to avail themselves of their career services. They should be entitled to uphold the same principle for the military. But banning military recruiters from campuses contributes to a cultural gulf that already divides elite universities from the armed services. ... A fruitful engagement between the military and these law schools seems essential, and an open recruiting environment should be part of that.

Ridge climbed a mountain
The Tribune-Democrat,
Johnstown, Pa.

[Tom] Ridge resigned this month as director of Homeland Security, and probably is sleeping well at night for the first in a long time.

Some will judge Ridge's tenure in that new Cabinet-level position as only average, but his true accomplishments, like the man himself, aren't flashy or worthy of many television sound bites.

Ridge managed to combine 22 different and competitive agencies and make a department of Homeland Security. The department has about 180,000 employees and is three times the size of computer giant Microsoft.

If any one person managed to do that in the private sector, in a mere three years, he or she would be honored and touted as a business guru.

Say all you want about duct tape and orange alerts, America wasn't attacked under Tom Ridge's watch. And that's good enough for us to rank his performance as highly satisfactory.

Odor closes school

MA PEMBRROKE — A mysterious odor that's making some students sick has forced town officials to close Bryantville Elementary School until they can figure out what's causing the stench.

The school, which received a \$15 million renovation two years ago, was shut down by the Board of Health after a unanimous vote.

A smell of burnt rubber was first detected in early November after the cafeteria ceiling was painted with a sealant intended to prevent mold growth.

Tests to determine the source of the smell are scheduled. In the meantime, town officials are coming up with alternative plans to educate roughly 570 students in grades K-6.

Trespassing swines

FL MELBOURNE — All over one suburban subdivision, wild pigs have left their mark.

There was a dead cat. Ruth Strabosky's lawn was shredded when she was on vacation. Trespassing swine have been spotted along Wright Avenue and Corbusier Drive, congregating in rummaging hordes of up to 20 animals.

The animals come from the adjacent, unfenced land owned by the Melbourne Airport Authority.

After a rash of complaints from the neighborhood Homeowners Association, the airport authority agreed to a one-year contract with two licensed trappers to try to thwart the hog onslaught.

Volcano brush fire

HI VOLCANO — What at first appeared to be a fiery eruption at Kilauea Volcano turned out to be a brush fire that scorched more than 850 acres and threatened a native shrub in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island, officials said.

Through the day, 20 park personnel and seven Hawaii County firefighters battled the blaze.

Three helicopters — one each from the park, county and Hilo-based tour operator Tropical Helicopters, made water drops after filling their buckets from a frog pond along a road.

"We want to assure our neighboring communities that we're on the attack; we are fighting this fire aggressively," Park Superintendent Cindy Orlando said.

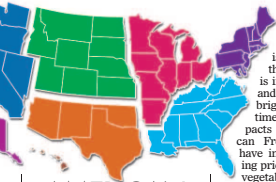
Woman survives accident

IN ANDERSON — A woman survived being impaled by a 12-foot metal fence post that pierced through her mouth and came out the back of her neck in a car accident, authorities said.

Emergency crews had to saw off part of the 1½-inch thick fence rail to free Alejandra Martinez, who was still awake when crews arrived at the scene. Fire officials were shocked to find her alive.

Martinez drove through a stop sign at an intersection and hit another car, Anderson police spokesman Terry Sollars said. She then lost control, careened off the road and went through a chain-link fence.

The car hit a concrete porch, shoving it three feet back, Sollars said. The metal rod from the fence went through the driver's side of the windshield, he said.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

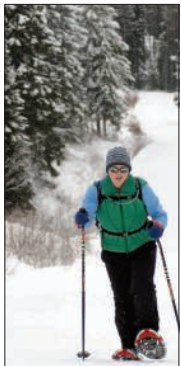
Man tortures stray dog

TX SAN ANGELO — An 18-year-old man was sentenced to two years probation for torturing a stray dog by hitting it with a skateboard, a case that drew national attention when a videotape of the attack showed up on the Internet.

The dog, a red chow-German shepherd mix, was euthanized after no one adopted it following the March 1 attack, according to court documents. Animal-rights Web sites posted the video and organized letter-writing campaigns urging harsh punishment.

The video, played in court, shows the dog lying in a corner next to a vending machine in a parking garage when Jonathan Benjamin Johnson lunges forward, smashing a skateboard with two hands into the side of the dog's head. The dog, after first jumping and barking, begins to stagger against the machine.

As the dog tries to turn away into the corner, another blow with the skateboard is delivered to its neck. The dog then curls into the corner. Johnson also was fined \$500 and ordered to complete 60 hours of community service. Johnson is also to avoid contact with Kevin Ward Wright, 18, whose trial on the same state jail felony charge of cruelty.



Winter walk

Heidi Reindl of Columbia Falls, Mont., snowshoes behind Chair 6 on her way to the top of Big Mountain in Whitefish, Mont.

Brighter futures

CO DENVER — The drought isn't officially over, but the state's water supply is improving and farmers and ranchers are seeing a brighter future for the first time in four years. Trade packs like the North American Free Trade Agreement have increased exports, raising prices for beef, wheat and vegetables, Colorado Farm Bureau officials said.

Airport standoff

CA SANTA ANA — An Orange County airport was temporarily brought to a standoff after a passenger vanished with a suspicious bag, prompting authorities to empty 10 planes and force hundreds of people to make a second trip through security screening. The precautionary step tangled air traffic at John Wayne Airport for as long as three hours.

Vaseline vandalism

NY BINGHAMTON — A Virginia man admitted to smearing 14 jars of petroleum jelly all over an update New York motel room.

Robert F. Chamberlain, 45, of McLean, gave no reason for his actions when he appeared in court to plead guilty to a misdemeanor charge of criminal mischief.

A Broome County judge sentenced Chamberlain to three years of probation and ordered him to pay \$3,886 in damages to the Motel 6 in Chenango.

Authorities said Chamberlain costed every object of the motel room with petroleum jelly in May. A cleaning crew discovered the mess after he checked out, and he was arrested at another motel covered in the greasy stuff.

Gorillas mourn leader

IL BROOKFIELD — After Babs the gorilla died at age 30, keepers at Brookfield Zoo decided to allow surviving gorillas to mourn the most influential female in their social family.

One by one, the gorillas filed into the Tropic World building where Babs' body lay, arms outstretched. Curator Melinda Pruett Jones called Babs a "gorilla woman."

Keepers said the display wasn't surprising.

"She was the dominant female of the group, the peacekeeper, the disciplinarian, the one who kept things in a harmonious state," Pruett Jones said.

Babs had an incurable kidney condition and was euthanized. Keepers had recently seen a videotape of a gorilla wake at the Columbus, Ohio, zoo and decided they would do the same for Babs. Gorillas in the wild have been known to pay respects to their dead, keepers said.

Online payment service

AR LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas launched an online service to help ensure children get the support they're owed. Parents can make their child-support payments online by going to a secured Web site and logging into their account with a private password. Currently, more than 162,000 child-support payments are submitted each month in Arkansas by mail or in person.



Powerful kid

Nicholas Norton, 3, of Chenango Bridge, N.Y., puts all of his might into applying glue to pine cones as he makes a wreath out of mixed red pine, scotch pine, almonds, hickory nuts, rosehips, hemlock and cinnamon sticks at Finch Hollow Nature Center in Johnson City, during "Make a Nature Wreath" class.



We're cute, we know it

Eeyor and Jesus, two miniature donkeys who reside at the Pride and Joy Ranch in Vacaville, Ca., take a moment to pose for a picture.



Heartful performance

Dwana Adahia Smallwood, left, Clifton Brown, center, and Hope Boykin perform in "Love Stories" in Kansas City, Mo.



Slippery accident Janesville firefighter Bob Gabbey keeps an eye on a SUV as it is removed from the swimming pool deck of the YMCA in Janesville, Wis. The vehicle's driver was pulling into a parking stall when the vehicle accelerated through the window and dropped six feet to the deck. The car came to rest with its nose on the floor and rear wheels still on the building's foundation, just missing a plunge into the deep end of the pool. The driver was not injured in the incident.



Rainy days A pedestrian walks in the rain across the campus of the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Miss.



Duck traffic A pair of ducks swim in the floodwaters of the Tennessee River at Ditto Landing in south Huntsville, Ala. The stop sign and speed limit signs are along roads leading to the marina's boat slips.



Frisbee in December College of Charleston student Eric Oliver tosses a flying disk to his friend Bud Yackey, not pictured, at Marion Square park in Charleston, S.C., as Christmas trees stand in the background.

ACLU against new law

CA SAN FRANCISCO — The American Civil Liberties Union is asking a federal judge to overturn California's voter-approved Proposition 69, which greatly expands the number of people whose DNA is included in law enforcement databases.

"Proposition 69 is an extraordinary assault on the privacy and security of all Californians," said Maya Harris, an ACLU attorney and director of the Racial Justice Project. "It turns the presumption of innocence on its head."

In a lawsuit filed Tuesday in federal district court in San Francisco, the ACLU says the new law—which requires DNA samples be taken from everyone convicted of a felony, and, in 2009, anyone arrested for a felony—is unconstitutional and a violation of privacy.

Teen hit by train

CO DENVER — Moments before slamming on the brakes of a northbound light-rail train, the driver looked up and locked eyes with a 13-year-old boy standing in the middle of the tracks.

The driver, whose name has not been released, hit the brakes, but the train was traveling 40 mph and still plowed into the boy. It eventually stopped with the teen wedged under a bumper guard.

"As soon as she saw the kid run up the embankment and stand on the tracks and stare right at her, she slammed on the brakes," police spokesman Perry Schellinger said. "We are still trying to figure out why he did what he did."

The unidentified teen, who turned 13 in November, was listed in serious but stable condition Tuesday.

Parents go on strike

FL DELTONA — Even though the dishes, garbage and dirty laundry were piling up, homeowners Cat and Harlan Barnard were getting no help from their two children.

After begging and pleading with their 17-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter to help out around the house, the Barnards decided they were fed up. So they went on strike — and moved out to the front yard.

"This was our last-ditch effort," Cat Barnard said.

Since Monday morning, the Barnards have lived in a tent in their front yard, going inside the house only to use the restroom or shower. The couple sits on lawn chairs and roasts marshmallows over a hibachi.

Their children were confused on the first day when they came home from school. "It's extremely inconvenient," said their son, Ben Barnard. "Every time the phone rings, we have to run outside to give it to them."

Whether the couple's actions could be regarded as abandonment depends on how much guidance the parents are still providing and "if the children are suffering as a result," said Carrie Hoepfner, a spokeswoman with the Department of Children & Families in Orange County.

But Cat Barnard says the strike may already be paying dividends.

She noted that her daughter washed her own clothes for the

first time on Tuesday.

"This is war," Cat Barnard said. "I love my babies, but I don't like what they're doing."

'Star Wars' dream

MA GLOUCESTER TOWN-SHIP — Not so long ago in a galaxy far, far away — or just southeast of Philadelphia — Mike Degirolamo had a plan.

He wanted to build a 20-by-12-foot model of a Jawa Sandcrawler, a hulking transport vehicle from the original "Star Wars" film, before the next installment of the saga "Star Wars: Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" opens in May.

To get the property done, he needed the Force, but rather the power to persuade the township council it's a worthy project.

The council is planning a special meeting to discuss whether Degirolamo will be allowed to erect the model on the property of a local business.

There are two concerns about the proposed meeting of the fantasy and real worlds, according to township community development director Ed Sayers.

First, the property is in a historic redevelopment area where the Sandcrawler might not fit in architecturally. Also, it could be a liability.

"This is certainly one of those gray areas," Sayers said.

"This could wind up being an attractive nuisance and a safety concern if kids try to climb on it."

A lifesaving gift

IN ANDERSON — The Anderson Fire Department has a holiday gift that has a real lifesaving ring to it — ambulance service subscription cards.

The cards cost \$25 and can save the recipient \$225 to \$400 on a trip to the hospital depending on the amount of care needed. The cards are good for one ride and expire after a year.

"It would be a good Christmas gift if you know a needy family who might need medical care," said fire department Capt. Denny Jones.

The cards have been available since 1996, when the city about 35 miles northeast of Indianapolis began charging for ambulance service. But this is the first year the department has promoted them.

"It used to be that we only sold them twice a year, but now they're available all year," said Leona Brown, the fire department's billing coordinator.

Don't feed the geese

NV RENO — The increasing population of geese in the Reno-Sparks area is causing officials to consider a ban on feeding waterfowl. Under the proposal, feeding waterfowl would be prohibited at Virginia Lake and 80 acres of woodlands. About 20 percent of the town's 21,000 acres is protected from development.

Town may buy orchard

NH HOLLIS — At a town meeting next week, a voters will consider spending more than \$4 million to protect 261 acres. Voters will consider buying the 181-acre Woodmont Orchard and 80 acres of woodlands. About 20 percent of the town's 21,000 acres is protected from development.

Stories and photos from wire services

YOUR MONEY

Organization can reduce post-vacation blues

Susie Bearw, from the book "The Savvy Sailor's Spouse," is new to the military lifestyle but is eager to learn more about how to manage her family and her new life through the monthly Family Readiness Group meetings of her husband Jake's new command.

My neighbor Maggie Warren and her family took a week's vacation at the end of July.

I didn't realize how much I'd miss my daily talks with her until she was gone. A few days after the Warrens left, Mom called from Whidbey Island.

"How's your preparation for family beach week coming?" she asked.

I froze. One, because it drove me crazy when my mom caught me off guard, and two, because I had completely forgotten about beach week. For my family, the pinnacle of the year is a week in August we call family beach week. My parents always rented the same house on the shore. This year was no different except I was a day of travel away from the beach house instead of one hour away in Whidbey, and I had a spouse — in the Navy.

"Uh, fine," I replied, with a stutter.

"You haven't started preparing, have you?" she asked, with a chuckle. "I had a hunch it was going to be a challenge for you to make arrangements this year. The life of a newswoman can be pretty complicated even if you're not married to a man in the military. You'd better make your plans soon if you want to come to the beach house this year. Anything I can do to help?"

As usual, she was one step ahead of me, which is her job as a mom. Now, instead of Mom taking care of all the family vacation details, I was going to have to figure out how to organize, arrange and pay my family's vacations.

I needed to get organized and I'd start with my mom's famous vacation-to-do list. I picked up a piece of paper and started writing.

First, Jake needed to take time off from work. Not taking any chances, I called him at work and asked him to put in his leave permission chit. He agreed and was hopeful that his chain of command would approve his request even though he had not been at the command that long. I checked his LES and he had enough leave days available to take the week off.

Next was my vacation. I called Mr. Mickey and asked him if I could take off that week. I even volunteered to work off-site via the Internet if he wanted me to. He said there was no need. He did joke that he'd have trouble living without me for a week and to take my laptop just in case.

I'd grown closer to Mr. Mickey since my initial job interview. He knew if something needed to be completed, I'd make it happen and I knew he was usually looking out for me.

Next, I needed to figure whether to travel by car, plane or train. I checked prices on the Internet. A round trip plane ticket cost \$507 for each of us and would take about five hours. I estimated that driving the 1,200 miles to Whidbey would cost about \$900 assuming it cost 37.5 cents a mile and that it would take two nine-hour days of driving. Finally,

Vacation planning list

Date	Who	What	Cost	Status	Comment
23-Jul	Jake	Leave from 8/7 to 8/15	\$0	In-work	Can't buy tickets until Jake confirms leave
23-Jul	Susie	Vacation for 8/10, 8/12	\$0	Done	
23-Jul	Jake	Train reservations	\$436	Done	See Notes
6-Aug	Susie	Food for trip	\$20		Cooler: lunch, dinner, snacks
6-Aug	Susie	Pack	\$0		
Week	Both	Family food	\$100		Help with family groceries
15-Aug	Susie	Food for trip	\$20		Cooler: lunch, dinner, snacks
15-Aug	Susie	Parking at train station	\$100		
Total			\$676		

NOTES:

Train	Start	Stop	Date	Depart	Date	Arrive	Accommodations
763	San Diego	LA	7-Aug	6:12a.m.	7-Aug	8:50a.m.	Reserved coach
14	LA	Seattle	7-Aug	10:15a.m.	8-Aug	8:30p.m.	Sleeper car
11	Seattle	LA	15-Aug	10:00a.m.	15-Aug	9:00p.m.	Sleeper car
796	LA	San Diego	15-Aug	10:10p.m.	16-Aug	12:50a.m.	Reserved coach

Source: Ralph Nielson

Stars and Stripes

Money U.



Ralph Nielson

ly, a train trip for both of us based on information I found at www.amtrak.com would cost us \$436 and would take two days — while staying in a sleeper car.

The train was the obvious choice. It was the least expensive and the sleeper car sounded both relaxing and romantic.

Everything was slowly starting to fall into place — just like when Mom did it — and that was a good feeling.

As soon as Jake confirmed he could take leave, I'd reserve our tickets on www.amtrak.com. If we worked fast, we could get tickets to leave on Saturday morning and arrive Sunday evening. I'd also plan on my dad picking us up in Seattle and driving us to the beach.

Finally, we'd need snacks on the trip and need to pick up some of the cost for the family's food once we arrived.

The planning spreadsheet had

a rough vacation cost of \$676. This would be an expensive trip considering Jake and I barely made \$2,000 a month after taxes — and we weren't even paying for lodging. I wondered how expensive it was for Maggie to go on vacation with a child.

Jake and I talked about the trip when he got home that night.

As for taking leave, Jake said his senior chief didn't see a problem with him taking it, but some extra paperwork would be waiting for him when he got back.

Then, we talked about the budget and where to get the \$676. We both agreed not to use the credit card since Jake's old senior chief recommended never using a credit card for consumables like eating out and vacations. It was too easy to forget about these types of expenses until the credit card bill came. We decided to pay for our train tickets out of our savings account immediately and take a cou-

ple hundred in cash during the trip and split it between the two of us for safety. Finally, we agreed to build our savings account back up quickly in the fall.

Over the next few weeks, we finished the items on my vacation check list. When it came time to leave on Saturday morning, our stuff was all ready.

I couldn't wait to start the family beach week!

Copies of Ralph Nielson's books — "The Savvy Sailor" and "The Savvy Naval Officer" — can be purchased by writing to: Master Plan Inc., 500 N. Washington St., P.O. Box 10071, Rockville, MD 20849, or online at www.savvyoneeb.com. This article is written and the book is sold with the understanding that neither the author nor Stars and Stripes are professional financial advisers. If you need advice, please seek professional assistance. The author specifically disclaims any liability, loss or risk — personal or otherwise — incurred as a consequence, directly or indirectly, of using or applying any of the information contained in this article or the book. E-mail for feedback is: finance@stripes.com

Planners: Money matters can muddle marriage

Couple mixes financial, relationship advice

BY SHERYL JEAN

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Talk to financial planners Susan and Steve Zimmerman, and you will get more than practical advice on how to invest your money. You also will get a strong dose of psychoanalysis.

In 20 years of working and living together, the Zimmermans have learned that to truly help people get their finances under control, they first must know what makes them tick.

The Zimmermans are among a small but growing number of financial planners who have figured out the intimate bond between money and relationships makes human nature hard to ignore when making financial decisions. Most people's money habits are deeply rooted in the way they were raised, and others say, so it is no surprise money is one of the top reasons behind marital troubles.

Susan Zimmerman, who along with her credentials as a financial planner is a licensed family and marriage therapist, has identified eight personality traits called

"money rascals" to help figure out how people think about money. The terms include "flashers," who are spendthrifts, and "cashers," who are savers and debt dodgers.

The Zimmermans, who live in Apple Valley, Minn., use themselves as examples. She refers to herself as a "recovering" casher. Steve Zimmerman says he is a recovered stasher, who liked the thrill of high-risk investments and making a quick buck.

"The trick is to get them balanced and not have one dominate at any one time," said Susan Zimmerman, exchanging a knowing look with her husband. "It's simply helped us to know what deeper questions to ask — and to help put couples at ease. I was never OK with it just being about the numbers."

The Zimmermans think their background and experience give them insight in helping other couples — and helps differentiate them in a crowded field of financial planners. They are also among a few married financial planners across the country who counsel clients together.

SEE MONEY ON PAGE 27



Financial planners Susan and Steve Zimmerman, right, meet with Ken and Cindy Youngberg in Apple Valley, Minn. The Zimmermans believe there are eight financial personality types to help people figure out how they handle money.

YOUR MONEY

Read permanent records

Q: I was glad to hear that consumers are finally getting the right to a free copy of their credit reports, thanks to the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act that passed last year. But what about some of the other files that are compiled on consumers, such as medical information and employment history? I think the information compiled by employment screening companies in particular would be an extremely useful piece of information to have. Consumers should have a right to know if there is incorrect information in these files that could prevent them from getting hired. Is there any way to get a copy of these other reports?

A: Yes and no.

All of the hoopla over free credit reports has overshadowed the fact that the credit information on your file is the only one compiling information on you. In addition to the types of reports you mentioned, there are also databases that track your rental history as a tenant, your check-writing history and insurance claims you may have filed. Incentives in information in any of these files can cause you problems, so it's important to check them regularly and correct any mistakes.

Fortunately, these databases are covered by the FACTA law that governs credit bureaus. What's different about these "nontredit" consumer reporting agencies is that there's no waiting everyone in the country is now eligible to a free report from each of these databases once a year. By contrast, only people in the Western states are currently eligible for free credit reports, the rest of the country will get access on a staggered schedule next year.

But here's the rub. Only companies that maintain

consumer databases are required to provide the free reports, and many employment screening companies don't keep such permanent files. They gather information about you and send it off to employers without keeping permanent copies, said Les Rosen, co-chairman of the National Association of Professional Background Screeners. Those screeners are not required to provide reports to consumers, free or otherwise.

One company that maintains a permanent employment-related database is ChoicePoint, which also compiles information about tenants and about and homeowners' insurance claims in its Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange (CLUE) database. You can visit its Web site at www.choicepoint.com or call (866) 312-8076 to get your CLUE reports, (877) 448-5732 to get your tenant history and (866) 312-8075 to get your employment history.

Other databases you might want to contact include the Medical Information Bureau at www.mib.com or (617) 426-3660.

The MIB is a membership association of 600 companies, mostly insurers, that share information to detect and prevent fraud. If you're ever applied for a life, health, disability or long-term care policy, your information may be in this database.

CheckSystems keeps records of those who have abused their checking accounts, typically by repeatedly bouncing checks. You can request a free report at www.checkhelp.com or by calling (800) 422-9623.

Liz Pulliam Weston is the author of "Your Credit Score: How to Fix, Improve and Protect the 3-Digit Number That Shapes Your Financial Future." Questions for Money Talk can be submitted via her Web site, <http://www.lizweston.com>, although she regrets that she cannot respond personally to queries.

Money Talk



Liz Pulliam Weston

THURSDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES					
52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% YTD 52-week Chg % Chg
10,533.63	9,708.40	Dow Jones Industrial	10,532.82	+54.91	+36 +35 +54.4
3,148.46	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,147.71	+40	+23.5 +25.6
335.20	252.47	Dow Jones Utilities	318.77	+1.71	+13.9 +13.3 +25.4
7,185.82	6,687.21	S&P 500	7,185.82	+18.12	+18.12 +25.4
14,741.1	11,855.38	NASDAQ Composite	14,741.1	+26	+26 +25.4 +25.4
2,146.41	1,586.82	NASDAQ Composite	2,146.41	+26	+26 +25.4 +25.4
1,127.46	1,053.41	S&P 500	1,127.46	+18.12	+18.12 +25.4
646.34	548.29	S&P MidCap	646.34	+20	+20 +25.4 +25.4
64.44	51.50	S&P SmallCap	64.44	+2.08	+2.08 +25.4 +25.4
11,788.44	10,244.15	DJ Wilshire 2000	11,788.44	+54.38	+54.38 +25.4 +25.4

NYSE						AMEX						NASDAQ					
Most Active (\$1 or more)						Most Active (\$1 or more)						Most Active (\$1 or more)					
Name	Vol	01	Last	Chg		Name	Vol	01	Last	Chg		Name	Vol	01	Last	Chg	
Norcent	129,321	1,384	+11			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Lucycent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11	+2.27		
Norcent	1,148	65.5	+7			SPDR	85,611	11,822	+49			SeriesA	14,525,98	7.11			

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS					
52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% YTD 52-week Chg % Chg
10,533.63	9,708.40	Dow Jones Industrial	10,532.82	+54.91	+36 +35 +54.4
3,148.46	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,147.71	+40	+23.5 +25.6
335.20	252.47	Dow Jones Utilities	318.77	+1.71	+13.9 +13.3 +25.4
7,185.82	6,687.21	S&P 500	7,185.82	+18.12	+18.12 +25.4
14,741.1	11,855.38	NASDAQ Composite	14,741.1	+26	+26 +25.4 +25.4
2,146.41	1,586.82	NASDAQ Composite	2,146.41	+26	+26 +25.4 +25.4
1,127.46	1,053.41	S&P 500	1,127.46	+18.12	+18.12 +25.4
646.34	548.29	S&P MidCap	646.34	+20	+20 +25.4 +25.4
64.44	51.50	S&P SmallCap	64.44	+2.08	+2.08 +25.4 +25.4
11,788.44	10,244.15	DJ Wilshire 2000	11,788.44	+54.38	+54.38 +25.4 +25.4

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS					
52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% YTD 52-week Chg % Chg
10,533.63	9,708.40	Dow Jones Industrial	10,532.82	+54.91	+36 +35 +54.4
3,148.46	2,743.46	Dow Jones Transportation	3,147.71	+40	+23.5 +25.6
335.20	252.47	Dow Jones Utilities	318.77	+1.71	+13.9 +13.3 +25.4
7,185.82	6,687.21	S&P 500	7,185.82	+18.12	+18.12 +25.4
14,741.1	11,855.38	NASDAQ Composite	14,741.1	+26	+26 +25.4 +25.4
2,146.41	1,586.82	NASDAQ Composite	2,146.41	+26	+26 +25.4 +25.4
1,127.46	1,053.41	S&P 500	1,127.46	+18.12	+18.12 +25.4
646.34	548.29	S&P MidCap	646.34	+20	+20 +25.4 +25.4
64.44	51.50	S&P SmallCap	64.44	+2.08	+2.08 +25.4 +25.4
11,788.44	10,244.15	DJ Wilshire 2000	11,788.44	+54.38	+54.38 +25.4 +25.4

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Dec. 10)	1.00
South Korean (won) (Dec. 10)	1,936
Euro (Dec. 10)	1.367
Yen (Dec. 10)	7.96
British pound (Dec. 10)	1.58
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
Canada (Dollar)	0.5275
Denmark (Krone)	5.929
Sey (Pound)	0.5275
Sey (Pound)	0.5275
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$132/1,000
Hong Kong (Dollar)	\$132/1,000
Israel (Shekel)	4.343
Israel (Shekel)	4.343
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2946
Norway (Krone)	0.5118
Philippines (Peso)	56.20
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.75
Singapore (Dollar)	1.6483
South Korea (Won)	1,925.30
Switzerland (Franc)	1.493
Thailand (Baht)	1.46845/1,000
Turkey (Lira)	1.46845/1,000

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities. Commercial rates are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is expressed in dollars-to-euro, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS	
52-week High	Low
10,533.63	9,708.40
3,148.46	2,743.46
335.20	252.47
7,185.82	6,687.21
14,741.1	11,855.38
2,146.41	1,586.82
1,127.46	1,053.41
646.34	548.29
64.44	51.50
11,788.44	10,244.15

INTEREST RATES	
52-week High	Low
10,533.63	9,708.40
3,148.46	2,743.46
335.20	252.47
7,185.82	6,687.21
14,741.1	11,855.38
2,146.41	1,586.82
1,127.46	1,053.41
646.34	548.29
64.44	51.50
11,788.44	10,244.15

Money: Compatibility is key to successful finances, marriage

MONEY, FROM PAGE 26

In the mid-1990s, Susan Zimmerman became interested in the psychological study of financial decision-making and ended up getting a master's degree in counseling and family therapy. She weaves that knowledge into her financial planning and dealing with the various "money rascals" she counsels.

The most problematic pairs are an overspender like a rasher, who is compulsive, and a casher, who is very organized, she said.

"These two types can give each other some major headaches because they'll both tend to plant their feet a little and not be able to see how the other is," she said.

The most compatible couples are those who are equal parts stasher, who is diversified, and casher, she said. Then, reasonable decisions will be made without much disagreement.

The Zimmermans have found their niche: About three-quarters of their clientele are couples and about half of those are business partners.

Many financial planners say they inadvertently deal with client families that reach beyond the finances because money and lifestyle issues often are inextricably tied together. Couples will discuss subjects that have not been broached before. Sometimes it gets downright nasty.

Personality types

Susan Zimmerman, a financial consultant and licensed marriage and family therapist, focuses on how people think about money. She has identified eight personality types called "money rascals" in her book "The Power in Your Money Personality."

■ Flasher: Likes to splurge on flashy items.

■ Rasher: A frequent, impulsive shopper.

■ Clasher: Indecisive about money habits.

■ Dasher: Too busy to focus on money management.

■ Basher: Bashes materialism and building wealth.

■ Asher: Worries about money.

■ Casher: Loves to save cash, hates debt.

■ Stasher: Stashes money in high-risk, high-return investments.

Here are questions couples should ask themselves, according to her book:

■ How are you alike or different from each other?

■ Do you clash?

■ How do you handle conflicts or indecisions about money?

■ Do you talk, yell, lie; avoid, sneak; compromise?

■ What would you like to change or improve?

— Knight Ridder

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

What to do with wrong gift

CBS MarketWatch
NEW YORK — It's bound to happen every time the holidays roll around: You get a gift that is great, but a little off (wrong size, unflattering color, etc.); way off base (Ostrich steak for a vegetarian); or just awful (trophy plaque with a plastic rhinoceros head).

Here are some options to get something from your worst gifts.

■ Return it. Without a receipt,

most store representatives will try to give you store credit. Before you accept, ask to speak with a manager about your options. He or she may be able to offer you cash back or another form of payment.

■ Auction it. You may not want these items, but others will.

■ Swap it. Even gift certificates can be changed. Visit www.swapgift.com, where you can register for free to view listings of available gift cards.

Discover why so many people are saying...

FirstCommand

www.FirstCommand.com

Sunday Horoscope

The Capricorn moon loves tradition. And during this very traditional time of year, honoring the rituals passed down through your family, culture and generation will bring a feeling of peace and unity. The simple act of sitting down to dinner together will be grounding, getting you psychologically ready to face the action-packed week ahead.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

December 12: You have your potential this year, and destiny smiles on you! In February, be open to introductions. By March, an important issue concerning home or family will reach fruition. A spiritual catharsis is headed your way in April. Debts are cleared in June so you can justify that extravagant vacation! Love signs are Cancer and Libra. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 15, 28, 50 and 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Let that genie out of the bottle. You've racked up a few new wishes and are ready to articulate them to someone who can actually do something about it! The future is bright, and it's right now.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

You get the message loud and clear — and this important communication probably comes through a family member or close female friend. Take full advantage of the info and use it to close a big deal. Kisses are lucky.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). All the numbers you've been crunching lately finally add up to big bucks. You'll see a windfall before the year's out. If you need special permission to invest in yourself first, consider this horoscope your invitation.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Like the shape-shifting moon, you are always able to reinvent yourself. Others see you in a new and exciting light. Accept the recognition with grace — you earned it through years of hard work.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Something that was previously hidden behind gray clouds now comes to light. This crucial bit of information

helps you put all the puzzle pieces together. Take time to rethink your strategy before redoubling your efforts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Being a team player pays off for you when a kindred spirit in your group becomes a champion on your project.

Holiday Mathis



Moving business with pleasure was never this much fun. Be willing to share the profits, though.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

23: Your dream job is calling to you like a beacon in the fog. Tune in to your instincts, and you'll see the way clearly. You might feel duplicitous for even considering other employment, but not considering your options would be foolish.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Just because the spotlight isn't on you, that's no excuse to let someone else get all the glory. Book a trip, or take a class — you'll awaken your spirit, and you might even benefit financially.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

21: You stand to benefit amazingly from other people's money. Those "other people" may include your spouse, your business partner, a family member or even the government. Be generous to those less fortunate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

19: Your significant other or perhaps a close friend can sometimes express your hidden fears and desires better than you can. Let OK to let him or her see your vulnerability. You are cherished.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

It's a good thing you like surprises because your schedule is about to get thrown for a loop. When folks get up early, you're just as likely to be the anchor in the storm as the lightning rod.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

You've never needed an excuse to party, but you get plenty anyway. An abundance of love, money and creative freedom are just the beginning. Fishes create their own fiesta everywhere they go, so pick a pond, and dive in.

Creators Syndicate

'Josh' origins only a theory

Our neighbor's name is Josh. He was asking recently how the term to "josh" someone (meaning to tease or kid) came to be. We could find nothing to help him with his question. Can you? —J.V. Toms River, N.J.

Dear J.V.: Sorry to disappoint you and Josh, but the word "josh" is another one of those words of mysterious origin for which many unproven theories are bandied about.

The favorite theory of most commentators recently has been that "josh" is connected with the name "Josh Billings," which was the pseudonym of American humorist Henry W. Shaw. Shaw

began writing in 1858, however, and we know that an early form of the verb "josh" existed several years before that.

Another theory is that "josh" comes from an English dialect term, "joshin," meaning "bumpkin." But "josh" began life in America, not England, so again the connection seems weak.

Some theorists suggest that "josh" was once considered by certain people to be a homely or off-putting name. But, for now, at least, the mystery of "josh" remains unsolved.

This column was prepared by the editors of Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition. Send us questions to Merriam-Webster's Wordwatch, P.O. Box 281, 47 Federal St., Springfield, Mass. 01102.

Case of teen who should be spared with grl's parents

Dear Abby: My 13-year-old daughter, "Dena," is in the same grade as her friend "Amanda." Amanda has a sister, "Barb," who turned 15 last month. Amanda told my Dena that Barb's 16-year-old boyfriend has been sneaking in Barb's bedroom window several nights a week, after their mother and stepfather have gone to bed. Amanda also confessed that Barb told her that she and the boyfriend have had sex a couple of times, including before Barb turned 15.

I am not close to the mother and stepfather, although I do run into them at school functions. I wouldn't trust either of them to approach the parents and tell them what I know. Should I be concerned with what's happening in other people's homes after they've gone to bed? Or should I keep this to myself and let them find out the hard way down the road? —**Anner Mother in Oklahoma**

Dear Mother: Do you think as you would have them do unto you. Call that girl's mother and tell her what you know and how you learned it. If what your daughter's friend confided is true, they need bars on the window.

Dear Abby



and a chastity belt for Barb (and some serious counseling).

Dear Abby: I work in the mailroom of a large company.

Every day we deliver the mail that is sent to the people who work here. On some occasions, I deliver mail to people who have private offices. Sometimes, these people are having a meeting in their office and do not shut the door.

When this happens, should I just give them their mail, or wait until they are finished talking to that person? I'm asking because sometimes I get dirty looks from those people while I'm giving them their mail — like, "How dare you come into my office while someone is in here!"

Abby: I don't talk to them and I try to stay out of their way, because I know that someone walking in can be distracting. What is the correct mailroom etiquette?

— Confused Deliverer
Dear Confused: The universal signal for "Do Not Disturb" is a closed door. If the door is open, then you should be free to enter. However, since you are being given dirty looks for making deliveries while there is a conversation in progress, the next time

the person is alone, ask what he or she would prefer under those circumstances. Another suggestion would be to stand quietly in the doorway for a few seconds and wait for the person to acknowledge you and motion you in.

Dear Abby: I have been married to "Kurt" for 13 years.

It's a second marriage for both of us. Kurt consistently fails to introduce me at social functions and leaves me to fend for myself. At the last party we attended, he left me to talk to the most attractive blond woman there — someone we had both just met. At the end of the evening he hugged her and told her to call when she's back in town.

I told Kurt his behavior hurt my feelings, and if he respected me he wouldn't act like that. He says I'm out of line. What do you think?

— **Socially Abandoned in Bend, Ore.**

Dear Socially Abandoned: Your husband appears to suffer from social amnesia — he "forgets" he's married when the two of you go out. You are not out of line; he is.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.abbycandor.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

Woman's extended vacation may amount to animal abuse

Dear Annie: I have a friend, "Moira," who lives in a very small house. Moira isn't married and has no children, but she does have 12 cats. Moira hasn't let anyone inside her house in the last 10 years.

She says the house is too dirty. Her heater broke several years ago, and she won't let anyone in to fix it. Her attitude is both amusing and successful: Moira moans on vacation, she leaves the cats in the house and won't let anyone in to check on them.

She says she leaves food and water out, but sometimes she is gone for two weeks at a time. This summer, Moira left the cats in the house when the weather in our area was over 100 degrees.

Some of our friends say this is animal cruelty. Others say it's Moira's business and we should stay out of it. Tell me, Annie, what should I do?

— Confused Cat in California
Dear Cat: Leaving 12 cats cooped up inside an overheated house with no means of cooling off is animal abuse, and we worry about Moira's mental health.

You can report this situation anonymously to the local Humane Society, but if you are unwilling to do that, perhaps her

friends could offer to pay for a cleaning service. Also, please talk to Moira. She might benefit from some professional help.

Dear Annie: I am a 48-year-old single mom. I had not had a serious relationship for years until I met "Glen."

Glen is truly the man of my dreams. He is 49, handsome, educated and successful. We have a lot in common.

The problem is, Glen lives 200 miles away from me. He and I decided that before we fell too deeply in love, we should break up unless we could manage to live closer. He said he doesn't want to say goodbye to me on the phone. He wants me with him, and it's just too painful to be apart.

I have never been so in love with anyone, and I am certain Glen is the man I want to be with for the rest of my life. I would pack up and move near him, but I have a 12-year-old son who doesn't want to leave her school and her friends. I really need some good advice.

— Lost True Love
Dear Lost: It's too bad Glen finds you so geographically undesirable. Your daughter will be going off to college in a few short years. It is possible for you to

convince Glen to maintain a not-so-long distance relationship until he's sure if you both are sufficiently motivated, you could find a way to see each other every month and, along with phone calls and e-mail, it might be enough.

Dear Annie: You were correct in referring the person from "Salina, Kan.," who admitted having a gambling problem, to Gamblers Anonymous.

However, I am concerned about the writer's resolution that he's thought about suicide. Compulsive gamblers often feel guilty, depressed, ashamed and are deeply in debt. Sadly, they frequently come to believe that suicide is the only way out of their situation.

Please inform your readers about the National Compulsive Gambling Hotline (1-800-522-4700) and the National Problem Gambling Crisis Line (1-800-774-2433).

— **Deanna Dayley, Mental Health Association of North Dakota**

Dear Deanna Dayley: We appreciate the way our readers look out for one another. Bless you.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the *Abby Cadabby*. Please e-mail your questions to annie@mailbox.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

SPECIAL TO STARS AND STRIPES

Walter Scott's **Personality** PARADE®

Want the facts? Opinions? Truth? Write Walter Scott, Box 5001, Grand Central Station, New York, N.Y. 10163-5001. Full name will be used unless otherwise requested. Volume of mail makes personal replies impossible.

Q Maria Menounos of "Entertainment Tonight" is gorgeous. I hear she lost a lot of weight. How much, and how did she do it? — Tiffany Sheets, San Diego

A "I dropped 40 pounds in one year," says the 5-foot-8, 123-pound Maria. "I cut back on carbs and worked out with a trainer on an elliptical machine." Along with ET, Maria, 26, appears on The WB's "One Tree Hill." And next year she'll be in the film "Fantastic Four." Maria tells us: "I kept my size-12 pants as a souvenir."



Q I've heard that Jasmine Trias is the most successful American Idol of them all. Is that true? — D. DeLong, Portland, Ore.

A It depends on what you mean by successful. Jasmine came in third — after Fantasia Barrino and Diana DeGarmo — so they were more successful on "American Idol." But the 18-year-old became a huge star in her parents' native country, the Philippines, where she signed numerous lucrative endorsement deals that her rivals might envy.

Jasmine Trias captured the hearts of Filipinos.

Q Can you give me some personal stats on the Houston Rockets' Yao Ming? — Darri Grant, Kent, Wash.

A At 7 feet 6, Ming is tied with Shawn Bradley of Dallas as the NBA's tallest player. He inherited his size and athleticism from his parents, both former basketball players in China. Since being drafted by Houston in 2002, he's learned to drive, written a book ("Yao: A Life in Two Worlds") and worked on his English. "Mostly," Ming tells us, "I'm trying to learn to trash talk on the court."

Q In your opinion, who was the better actress: Bette Davis or Ingrid Bergman? — Vinod Bhatia, McLean, Va.

A It's a close call. Each won two Best Actress Oscars, but otherwise their track records were very different. Davis (1908-89) made her mark playing larger-than-life women tough enough to stand up to any man. Bergman (1915-82) became famous as a wholesome beauty vulnerable to both her onscreen and offscreen love affairs. Our vote for "best" goes to Davis — but we're interested in hearing what our readers think.

Q Since Jerry Orbach left "Law & Order," I've eagerly awaited his new show. What happened to it? — Louise Beck, McKeesport, Pa.

A Your patience will be rewarded. Orbach, 69, is now shooting episodes of "Trial by Jury." To debut early next year. The fourth in NBC's "Law & Order" franchise, the show will have Jerry back as Lennie Briscoe, with Bebe Neuwirth as a tough assistant DA. If the networks keep cloning their cash cows, there soon will be nothing to watch on TV except "CSI," "Law & Order" and Donald Trump.

Q The media were hard on Britain's Prince Harry for getting into a shoving match with a photographer outside a London nightclub. Is he really such a naughty prince? — Julie Ann Jones, Detroit

A Not really. Harry's behavior is understandable — and excusable — when you remember that his mother, Diana, died while fleeing a pack of paparazzi. Harry, 20, is no dropout in any sense. He plans to join the army and follow in the military footsteps of other British royals.

Prince Harry has a reason to despise the paparazzi.



Richard Gere makes even Jennifer Lopez appealing in "Shall We Dance."

Q I'm not a fan of Jennifer Lopez, but I thought she was terrific in "Shall We Dance." Who finally turned her into a real actress? — David Gibson, New York

A We give full credit to co-star Richard Gere, 53, who brings on the best in his leading ladies. He did it with Debra Winger in "An Officer and a Gentleman," Julia Roberts in "Pretty Woman" and Diane Lane in "Unfaithful." J.Lo says that Gere's Buddhist spirituality helps him bring a calming and soothing influence to the movie set.

Q Can you tell me who the United States Poet Laureate is? — Frank Kessler, Washington, D.C.

A He's Ted Kooser, 65, a cancer survivor and recently retired insurance salesman. During his appointment (from October to May), he receives a \$35,000 stipend and reads his poetry at the Library of Congress.

Q Renée Zellweger, Nicole Kidman and even Reese Witherspoon of "Legally Blonde" all went brunette recently. Why? — Letitia L., Chevy Chase, Md.

A For Reese and Nicole, it was for film roles. Other blondes, like Renée, find that it's fun to go over to the "dark side." They also like the anonymity a change in color may provide. After going dark a few years ago, Gwyneth Paltrow said it was the first time she could sit at a bar without being recognized. But, as Hollywood colorist Kim Vo notes, "They always go back to being blonde."

Reprinted by permission of Parade magazine, © 2004 Parade Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.



Brown on blonde: Whether for their jobs, for anonymity or just for a change, several blond actresses are trying life as a brunette for a little while. At left is Renée Zellweger, who left blonde behind after her second stab at "Bridget Jones." Nicole Kidman, at right, has "gone brown" for several movie roles.

JAPAN TV (BILANGGALAN, SPORTS, MOVIES AND MUSIC)

SUN, DEC. 12

Morning
10:00 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Shogi" Tournament (3)
11:50 Japan Industrial League Ladies' Duden (marathon relay)(6)
12:00 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Shogi" Tournament (3)
2:00 Japan Men's Hockey Championship Final (3)
2:30 Fukushima International Ladies' Marathon (6)
4:00 2004 International College Equestrian Championships (12)
5:00 Japan Soccer Championship (1)
Afternoon
12:00 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Shogi" Tournament (3)
2:00 Japan Men's Hockey Championship Final (3)
2:30 Fukushima International Ladies' Marathon (6)
4:00 2004 International College Equestrian Championships (12)
5:00 Japan Soccer Championship (1)
Evening
7:00 News (1)
7:30 News (1)
8:00 News: Toyota Cup European/South American - FC Porto vs. Boca Caldas (4)
8:55 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Shogi" Tournament (3)
9:00 Classical Music: Niki Symbi... Orchestral Brahms' Symphony No. 1 (3)
10:00 Minor Beethoven's

MON, DEC. 13

Afternoon
12:00 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1994): No Contest (2001)(2)
5:50 News (6)
7:00 News (1)
7:30 News (1)
8:00 News: Toyota Cup European/South American - FC Porto vs. Boca Caldas (4)
8:55 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Shogi" Tournament (3)
9:00 Classical Music: Niki Symbi... Orchestral Brahms' Symphony No. 1 (3)
10:00 Minor Beethoven's

WOWOW

SUN, DEC. 12

Morning
9:30 U.S. Movie (2002): Second String (1)(35)
Afternoon
2:00 U.S. Movie (2003): The Hulk (2)(20)
4:20 U.S. Movie (1995): Nick of Time (1)(37)
Evening
6:00 U.S. Movie (1993): What's Eating Gilbert Grape (200)
8:00 U.S. Movie (2003): Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl (2)(30)
10:30 U.S. Movie (2002): The Real World: The Last Season (1)(38)
12:00 Pro Boxing: WBC Heavyweight Championship - Vladimir Klicchko vs. Danny Williams
2:00 UEFA Euro 2004 Soccer: Croatia vs. France (1)
4:55 Spanish Soccer Liga Espanola

JAPAN TV (BS1/NHK SATELLITE) (BILANGGALAN AND SPORTS)

SUN, DEC. 12

Morning
6:10 Figure Skating GP Series in Russia (1)
9:10 What's On Japan (1)
10:10 BS Documentary: Outbreak of H1N5 (1)
Afternoon
6:10 World News
12:00 Weekly NFL
1:00 Emperor's Cup Soccer Championship - FC Tokyo vs. Kawasaki Frontale
3:10 Emperor's Cup Soccer Championship: Omiya Ardija vs. FC Tokyo (5)
5:50 CNN News
Evening
10:10 Emperor's Cup Soccer Championship: Kashima Antlers vs. Kawasaki Frontale
9:10 BS Sports Weekly
10:10 Emperor's Cup Soccer Championship: Kashima Antlers vs. Kawasaki Frontale
11:10 Figure Skating GP Series in Russia (1)
12:10 CNN News
12:20 BS Sports Weekly (1)
1:10 Midnight Sports & Encore Hour

JAPAN TV (BS11/NHK SATELLITE) (BILANGGALAN, SPORTS, MOVIES AND MUSIC)

SUN, DEC. 12

Morning
10:00 Aerobics
Evening
7:00 NHK News

MON, DEC. 13

Morning
10:00 Classical Music: Freddy Kempf Piano Recital

Symphony No. 7 in A Major Op. 92, etc. (Conductor: Wolfgang Sawallisch)
9:00 Polish Movie: The Pianist (2)(40)(12)
11:30 Friends (42)
12:57 World Folk Music: Indonesia & China (1)(31)
1:55 Soccer: Serie A - AC Milan vs. Fiorentina (1)
1:45 NFL Football: Philadelphia Eagles vs. Green Bay Packers (1)
3:00 World Football Championship (8)
3:57 Classical Music (1)

TUE, DEC. 14

Afternoon
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1994): No Contest (2001)(2)
5:50 News (6)
7:00 News (1)
7:30 News (1)
8:00 News: Toyota Cup European/South American - FC Porto vs. Boca Caldas (4)
8:55 "Shogi" Lesson/NHK Trophy "Shogi" Tournament (3)
9:00 Classical Music: Niki Symbi... Orchestral Brahms' Symphony No. 1 (3)
10:00 Minor Beethoven's

TUE, DEC. 14

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

Morning
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1996): The Craft (2001)(2)
Evening
7:00 NHK News (1)
7:30 What I Like About You (3)
1:00 News (1)
12:55 Ultimate Fighting: 1st Dynasty (1)
2:29 Italian Movie (1965): Andreotti in Citta (201)(4)

WED, DEC. 15

Afternoon
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1996): Matilda (2001)(2)
5:50 News (6)
7:00 NHK News (1)
7:25 Simple Rules (3)
1:00 News (1)
1:00 News (1)
1:00 Nikita (42)
1:55 Japan Pro Boxing (6)
2:43 Japan Pro Boxing (6)
3:00 TV Series: Bull (6)

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

THU, DEC. 16

Morning
6:45 Between the Lions (3)
7:30 Disney (12)
Afternoon
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 U.S. Movie (1991): Carly Sue (2001)(2)
5:50 News (6)
Evening
7:00 NHK News (1)
8:00 Soccer: Kiva Challenge Cup 2004 - Jap. vs. Germany (10)
9:00 U.S. Movie (1984): The Terminator (1)(54)(12)
1:00 News (1)
2:05 Football C. Serie: A/Premier/Liga Digest (6)
2:20 NFL Club (4)
2:52 Best Hits USA (10)
2:59 Country Music: ETERNITY (4)

SAT, DEC. 18

Afternoon
1:00 Traditional Arts of Japan: Kabuki (3)(7)
3:00 2004 Phoenix Challenge Golf: 3rd Round (12)
3:00 Japan Men's Handball Championship (1)
4:00 Asia-Japan Okinawa Open Golf: 3rd Round (12)
Evening
6:30 Japan Rugby: NEC vs. Rugby (42)
7:00 News (1)
8:10 Japan Rugby: Ricoh vs. Toshiba-Fuchu (42)
12:12 E.R. VIII (1)
2:10 French Movie (1983): Rue des Plaisirs (2)(17)(6)
2:50 Pro Boxing (4)
3:50 NFL Teams To Be Determined (1)
9:00 U.S. Movie (1986): Cobra (1)(1)(1)(4)

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

FRI, DEC. 17

MTV

SUN, DEC. 12

Morning
6:00 Wake Up
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 Making the Video: D12
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 Screen
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 VAIAT
12:00 MTV: Metallica
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 Fantasy: The Cure
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 Screen
4:00 12-STEP SUNDAY
Evening
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show

MON, DEC. 13

Morning
6:00 Wake Up
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11:00 The Howard Stern Show
11:30 The Howard Stern Show
12:00 The Howard Stern Show
12:30 The Howard Stern Show
1:00 The Howard Stern Show
1:30 The Howard Stern Show
2:00 The Howard Stern Show
2:30 The Howard Stern Show
3:00 The Howard Stern Show
3:30 The Howard Stern Show
4:00 The Howard Stern Show
4:30 The Howard Stern Show
5:00 The Howard Stern Show
5:30 The Howard Stern Show
6:00 The Howard Stern Show
6:30 The Howard Stern Show
7:00 The Howard Stern Show
7:30 The Howard Stern Show
8:00 The Howard Stern Show
8:30 The Howard Stern Show
9:00 The Howard Stern Show
9:30 The Howard Stern Show
10:00 The Howard Stern Show
10:30 The Howard Stern Show
11

AM WEEKLY RADIO

JAPAN - KANTO

EAGLE 810
5:35 Religious Programming
9:30 Eagle 810 Sunday Brunch (Smooth Jazz)
Afternoon
 12:00 American Country Countdown
 1:00 A Prairie Home Companion
Evening
 6:00 Focus on the Family
 7:30 Travel Radio
 7:30 Dr. Laura
 8:00 Radio Street Caravan
 9:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)
 12:00 2-Rock (Alternative/Mon-Fri)
 12:00 Sports Overnight America
 4:00 NPR's Talk of the Nation Live (Tue-Fri)
 6:00 NPR on the Media (Mon)
 5:00 NPR Live on Earth (Mon)
Morning (Mon-Fri)
 6:00 Eagle 810 Morning Show (Contemporary Hits)
 7:00 Paul Harvey News and Commentary
 7:20 Pacific Report
 7:24 Paul Harvey Rest of the Story
 7:28 Eagle 810 News
 7:30 Zama Commander's Corner (Sat 1st Friday)
 8:00 Zama Commander's Corner (Sun & 4th Fri)
 10:00 WFSZ Chiefs' Corner (3rd Friday)
 12:00 Retro Café (75s, 80s, 90s)
Afternoon
 12:00 Pacific Report
 12:07 Paul Harvey News and Commentary
 12:10 Air Force Radio News
 2:00 Top 40 Music
 3:00 Traffic Jamz (Current Chart Hits)
 5:00 Pacific Report
 4:47 AFN Sportspage
 12:12 Paul Harvey Rest of the Story
Evening
 6:00 from the Bench Live Sports (Wed)
 7:00 NPR's Morning Edition LIVE
 7:00 Zama Commander's Corner (1st & 3rd Thursday)
 8:00 Rush Limbaugh
 9:00 Rush Limbaugh (Urban): Mon/Country: Tue/Pure Gold (Oldies): Wed/Rock of the 70s (Classic Rock): Thu/The Touch (Urban): Fri
 12:00 2-Rock (Alternative)
 12:00 Sports Overnight America
 4:00 NPR's Talk of the Nation Live
Mon-Fri
 6:00 NPR's All Things Considered Live
 8:05 Car Talk
 9:00 Kim Komando
 10:00 Classic Rock
Afternoon
 12:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40
 4:00 2-Rock (Alternative)
Evening
 6:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night
 7:00 The Touch (Urban)
 12:00 2-Rock (Alternative)
 2:00 Sports Overnight America
 5:00 NPR Contemporary
POWER 1575
Morning (Sun)
 11:00 NPR: All Things Considered

8:00 Rush Limbaugh
 9:00 Parent's Journal
 10:00 Chris's Table
Afternoon
 11:00 Sports Overnight America
 12:00 Adult Rock (Oldies)
Evening
 7:00 Hot AC
 10:00 The Touch (Urban)
 12:00 The Touch (Urban)
 2:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)
Morning (Mon-Fri)
 6:00 Morning Air Strike
 6:30 Paul Harvey News
 7:10 Horsepower
 7:30 Inside Wakana Radio News
 8:30 Rest of the Story
 8:35 David Letterman/Leno
 9:00 Country Call Up
 10:00 Bright AC/Golden Oldies (Fri)
 11:00 Urban Assault
 12:00 2-Rock/Colden Oldies (Fri)
 2:00 The Afterburner
 2:30 Inside Wakana Radio News
 2:34 Best of the Story
 2:36 Pacific Report
 3:30 Paul Harvey News
 3:40 AFN Sportspage
 4:00 Departure Time
Evening
 6:00 NPR: Fresh Air
 7:00 The Touch Show (Mon/Old School Thu)/The Mosh Pt (Fri)
 12:00 Adult Rock
 3:00 Country
Morning (Sat)
 6:00 Pure Gold (Oldies)
 10:00 Soundbarrier
Afternoon
 2:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40
Evening
 7:00 NPR's All Things Considered
 7:00 The Jim Rose Show
 8:00 The Touch
 10:00 2-Rock
 5:00 Hot Jazz

JAPAN - MISAWA

THE EDGE - AM 1575
Morning (Sun)
 12:00 2-Rock
 2:00 Classic Rock
 4:00 Hot AC
 6:00 Sam Donaldson
 7:00 Religious
 9:00 Oldies
 10:00 Hot AC
 12:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40
 12:00 ACC Country
 5:00 Air Force Radio News
Evening
 6:00 Prairie Home
 6:00 Hot AC
Morning (Mon-Thu)
 11:00 2-Rock
 2:00 Classic Rock
 4:00 Sports Overnight America
 5:00 Rush Limbaugh

6:00 Matt in the Morning
 9:00 Hot AC
Afternoon
 12:00 Classic Rock
 3:00 Edge of Our Knowledge
Evening
 6:00 Country
 8:00 R&B
 10:00 Hot AC
Morning (Fri)
 12:00 2-Rock
 2:00 Classic Rock
 4:00 Sports Overnight America
 5:00 Rush Limbaugh
 6:00 Matt in the Morning
 9:00 Flashback
 11:00 Hot AC
Afternoon
 12:00 Classic Rock
 3:00 Edge of Our Knowledge
 3:00 That Country Show
Evening
 6:00 Classic Rock
 8:00 R&B
 10:00 Hot AC
Morning (Sat)
 12:00 2-Rock
 2:00 Classic Rock
 4:00 Hot AC
 6:00 Oldies
 8:00 Car Talk
 9:00 Saturday Retro

Afternoon
 12:00 Rock Beats Weekly Top 40
 3:00 Australia Music
 5:00 Kim Komando
Evening
 6:00 Jim Rose
 7:00 2-Rock
 9:00 Hot AC

JAPAN - SASEBO

THUNDER RADIO 1575
Morning (Sunday)
 12:00 Top 40
 4:00 Soft Hits
 7:00 Religious Programming
 10:00 Focus on the Family
 11:00 The Environmental Show
Afternoon
 12:00 American Country Countdown
Evening
 6:00 Classic Rock
 9:00 2-Rock
Morning (Mon-Fri)
 12:00 Soft Hits
 3:00 Oldies
 6:00 Rush Limbaugh
 6:00 Morning Drive
 8:00 Country
 12:00 "The Jam" with Nikki V. (Mon, Wed and Thu)
 12:00 Urban Music (Tue and Thu)
 11:00 "The Rush"
 2:00 Classic Rock
 4:00 Sports Overnight America
 5:00 Rush Limbaugh

Morning (Saturday)
 12:00 Top 40
 4:00 Classic Rock
 7:00 All Things Considered
 7:00 Edge of Our Knowledge
 9:00 Oldies
 10:00 Car Talk
 11:00 DJ Top 40 Show (live)
Afternoon
 12:00 Rock Beats American Top 40
 4:00 Nuestra Musica
Evening
 6:00 Country
 8:00 Urban

KOREA

Thunder AM Morning (Sun)
 12:00 Country
 5:00 NPR Weekly Edition
 7:00 Bright Adult Contemporary
 12:00 Australia Musica
Afternoon
 12:00 Sports Radio
 4:00 Sports Overnight America
Evening
 6:00 NPR Car Talk
 7:00 Prairie Home Companion
 8:00 NPR Weekly Edition Sunday
 11:00 Country
Morning (Mon)
 12:00 Country
 5:00 NPR
 7:00 Morning Report
 7:30 This Week with Sam & Kokie
 8:00 Oldies Radio
 12:00 Noon Report
 12:35 News & Views
 1:00 Dr. Laura
 2:00 Country
 3:00 Jim Rose Show
Evening
 6:00 Evening Report
 6:35 Sports Byline
 7:00 Rush Limbaugh
 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition
 10:00 Country
Morning (Tue-Fri)
 12:00 Country
 11:00 Sports Traveler
 7:00 Morning Report
 7:30 NPR Market Place
 8:00 Oldies Radio
Afternoon
 6:00 Classic Rock
 12:00 Noon Report
 12:35 News & Views
 1:00 Dr. Laura
 2:00 Country
 3:00 Jim Rose Show
Evening
 6:00 Evening Report
 6:35 Sports Byline
 7:00 Rush Limbaugh
 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition
 10:00 Country
Morning (Sat)
 12:00 Country
 5:00 NPR All Things Considered
 7:00 Oldies Radio
Afternoon

12:00 Country
 4:00 Sports Overnight America
Evening
 6:00 Country
 7:00 Rush Limbaugh
 8:00 Country
 9:00 National Public Radio

OKINAWA

SURF 648 AM Morning (Sunday)
 7:00 Adult Rock (cont.)
Afternoon
 7:00 Sports Overnight America (live)
 8:00 Adult Rock
 12:00 Country
 12:00 Ben Maller & Jason Smith - Sports (live)
 8:00 Adult Rock
Morning (Mon)
 7:00 NPR's All Things Considered (live)
 8:00 Adult Rock
 11:00 Jim Lamley (live) Sports
Afternoon
 12:00 Steve Schlinger
 1:00 The Dr. Laura Show (recorded)
 2:00 Adult Rock
 4:00 The Rush Limbaugh Show (recorded)
 5:00 Sports Overnight America
Evening
 7:00 NPR's Morning Edition (live)
 11:00 Country
 1:00 The Rush Limbaugh Show (live)
 2:00 Country
Morning (Mon-Thu)
 6:00 NPR's All Things Considered (live)
 8:00 Adult Rock
 11:00 FOX Sports
Afternoon
 12:00 Jim Rose Show (recorded)
 1:00 The Dr. Laura Show (recorded)
 2:00 Adult Rock
 4:00 The Rush Limbaugh Show (recorded)
 5:00 Sports Overnight America
Evening
 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition (live)
 11:00 Country (live)
Morning (Fri)
 6:00 NPR's All Things Considered (live)
 8:00 Country
 11:00 FOX Sports
Afternoon
 12:00 The Jim Rose Show (recorded)
 1:00 The Dr. Laura Show (recorded)
 1:45 Paul Harvey
 2:00 Country
 4:00 The Rush Limbaugh Show (recorded)
 5:00 Sports Overnight America
Evening
 8:00 NPR's Morning Edition (live)
 11:00 Country (live)
Morning (Sat)
 6:00 NPR's All Things Considered (live)
 10:00 Adult Rock
 12:00 The Jim Rose Show (recorded)
 1:00 Adult Rock
 3:00 Sports Overnight America (live)
Evening
 6:00 Adult Rock
 (Note: The Schedule is subject to change due to sports schedules.)

FM WEEKLY RADIO

JAPAN — YOKOTA

FM CABLE RADIO STATIONS (On Base Only)
 2-Rock (Alternative) 90.3 FM
 Eagle 810 (Variety) 90.7 FM
National Public News, The Talk 91.1 FM
Adult Rock (C-Rep) 91.7 FM
Adult Rock (Classic Rock) 92.3 FM
The Touch (Urban) 92.7 FM
Country 93.3 FM
Pure Gold (Oldies) 93.7 FM
Hot AC (Today's Hits) 94.3 FM
National Public Radio
Morning (Sun)
 6:00 Weekend All Things Considered
 8:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night
 11:00 Piano Jazz
 12:00 Beethoven Network
 2:00 Weekend All Things Considered
 2:00 Dialogue
 2:30 Uncommon Knowledge
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network
 5:00 Jazz Profiles
Evening
 6:00 Walt, Walt Don't Tell Me
 7:00 A Prairie Home Companion
 9:00 Weekend Edition Sunday
 11:00 Justice Talking
 12:00 Fresh Air Weekend
 12:00 This American Life
 2:00 Live Show with Harry Shearer
 3:00 on the Media
 4:00 Newsweek Radio
 5:00 Weekly Edition

Morning (Mon)
 6:00 Weekend All Things Considered
 8:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network
 12:00 Car Talk
 1:00 Weekend All Things Considered
 2:00 Fresh Air Weekend
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network
Evening
 6:00 Morning Edition
 11:00 The Diane Rehm Show (call in)
 12:00 Connection (call in)
 1:00 Fresh Air
 2:00 Walt, Walt Don't Tell Me
 3:00 The Talk of the Nation (call in)
 3:00 The Mosh Pt. (Fri)
Morning (Tue-Fri)
 7:00 The World
 8:00 Marketplace
 8:30 Rewind
 9:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network

Afternoon
 1:00 All Things Considered
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network
 5:00 WFTM Jazz
Evening
 6:00 Thrillist & Shamrock
 7:00 Weekly Edition
 8:00 Rewind
 8:30 Says You
 9:00 Weekend Edition Saturday
 10:00 Beethoven
 12:00 Beethoven Street Caravan
 1:00 Weekend Edition Saturday
 3:00 Hot Jazz Saturday Night
 5:00 National Press Club

KOREA

EAGLE FM Morning (Sun)
 8:30 Says You (Tue) Latino USA (Wed)
 Living on Earth (Thu) Uncommon Knowledge (Fri) Rewind (Sat)
 9:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network
Afternoon
 1:00 All Things Considered
 3:00 The WFTM Jazz Network
Evening
 6:00 Morning Edition
 11:00 The Diane Rehm Show (call in)
 12:00 The Connection (call in)
 1:00 Fresh Air
 2:00 Walt, Walt Don't Tell Me (Tue-Thu)
 3:00 The Talk of the Nation (call in)
 3:00 The Mosh Pt. (Fri)
Morning (Mon-Fri)
 7:00 The World
 8:00 Marketplace
 8:30 Rewind
 9:00 The WFTM Beethoven Network

8:00 Urban Adult Contemporary
 9:00 Adult Rock
Morning (Sat)
 12:00 2-Rock
 5:00 Bright Adult Contemporary
 8:00 Saturday Morning Wake-up
Afternoon
 12:00 Bright Adult Contemporary
 2:00 Country
 9:00 Adult Rock

OKINAWA

FM - WAVE 81.5 Morning (Sun)
 12:00 Adult Rock
 4:00 Adult Contemporary (Bright AC)
 12:00 Country
 12:00 American Country Countdown
 4:00 Adult Contemporary (Hot AC)
Morning (Mon-Fri)
 12:00 Country
 5:00 Morning Show (live)
 9:00 Adult Contemporary (Bright AC)
 11:00 Wave Break (live)
Afternoon
 1:00 Adult Contemporary (Bright AC)
 2:00 Adult Contemporary Show (live)
Evening
 6:00 Adult Contemporary (Bright AC)
 10:00 Adult Contemporary (Hot AC)
Morning (Sat)
 12:00 Adult Rock
 4:00 Adult Contemporary (Bright AC)
 12:00 Country
 11:00 Adult Contemporary (Bright AC)
Afternoon
 12:00 Rick Dees Weekly Top 40
 4:00 Adult Rock
Evening
 6:00 Adult Contemporary (Hot AC)

AM RADIO SPORTS AND SPECIALS

OKINAWA

SUN, DEC. 12
Morning
 5:00 College Basketball: Air Force Falcons at Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets
 12:30 NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Los Angeles Clippers
MON, DEC. 13
Morning
 6:00 NFL Football: Chicago Bears at Jacksonville Jaguars
 6:00 NFL Football: Detroit Lions at Green Bay Packers
 8:30 NFL Football: Sunday Night Football - Philadelphia Eagles at Washington Redskins
TUE, DEC. 14
Morning
 11:00 NFL Football: Monday Night Football - Kansas City Chiefs at Tennessee Titans

KOREA

SUN, DEC. 12
Morning
 5:00 College Basketball: Air Force Falcons at Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets
MON, DEC. 13
Morning
 6:00 NFL Football: Chicago Bears at Jacksonville Jaguars
 6:00 NFL Football: Detroit Lions at Green Bay Packers
 8:30 NFL Football: Sunday Night Football - Philadelphia Eagles at Washington Redskins
TUE, DEC. 14
Morning
 11:00 NFL Football: Monday Night Football - Kansas City Chiefs at Tennessee Titans

STANDARD ISSUE MEETS A NEW STANDARD

STARS AND STRIPES
 Your Hometown Newspaper

Wherever You Go, We Go

estripes.osd.mil



I am attending UMUC because
they've been **serving** the military
for more than 50 years.

Since 1947, University of Maryland University College has been praised by U.S. presidents for bringing flexible, high-quality programs to the armed forces around the world. In that time, more than 1.5 million servicemembers, including flag officers, have pursued their degree or certificate at UMUC. Join UMUC today and be a part of a long-standing military education tradition.

ASK YOUR ESO OR FIELD REP ABOUT:

- ★ Which of our more than 120 undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs is right for you.
- ★ How you can earn credit towards your degree based on your military training.
- ★ How our military tuition rate, scholarships, and financial aid make UMUC affordable.
- ★ How UMUC's global presence means you never again need worry about transferring credits.



University of Maryland University College

www.umuc.edu/military



2004 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas

www.cfcoverseas.org



Have you
Made a World of Difference
by contributing to the 2004 CFC-O?

The time is now.

**Complete your pledge card today and
support the causes most important to you.**



Your 2004 Pledge Card
Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas
Give through 15 December



Make a World of Difference

Special thanks to Exchange
New Car Sales and
DaimlerChrysler for
donating the FIRST PRIZE,
and to GEICO for donating
the SECOND and THIRD
PRIZES. CFC-O appreciates
your support.

CFC-O GIVEAWAY

SUPPORT THE CFC-O AND HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF THREE GREAT PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE
2005 Jeep
Liberty Renegade



SECOND PRIZE
2 Airline
Tickets

THIRD PRIZE
\$1,000
Savings Bond

**GEICO
DIRECT**

Visit us at **GEICO.com**
for overseas locations
and phone numbers
In the U.S. call
1-800-947-AUTO

Exchange
new car sales
www.ENCs.com

The only car-buying program created
by the military for the military.

Look for us on base.

The 2004 CFC-O is conducting a Giveaway as part of this year's campaign. By completing a pledge card, whether you donate or not, you are eligible to win. Winners will be randomly selected in March 2005 and notified by phone and/or in writing by the CFC-O. Enter now and win!

It's **crystaltime** on Rodeo for the holidays

BY WENDY THERMOS
Los Angeles Times

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — To some people, there's no such thing as too much glitter on Rodeo Drive.

With Christmas time here, Beverly Hills has taken the art of holiday decoration to a new level. It has lined the median of the famously posh street with \$1 million worth of formal chandeliers.

To passersby, it's very Beverly Hills. But it is also over the top? Erin Doyle, 35, an office worker at a nearby hair-products firm, squinted thoughtfully overhead and offered the opinion that fancy chandeliers look odd on a public street.

"Well," she said, "it's all about 'the look' of Beverly Hills. Personally, I think they look kind of pretentious."

To others, however, the display just goes with the territory.

"The \$50,000 watches were what we expected. But we didn't expect this. It's sort of like icing on the cake," said avestruck Bob Becht, 56, a first-time visitor from Stafford Springs, Conn.

His wife, Kathy, added: "They're just beautiful. But if they were in our small town, they'd be totally out of place."

From Thanksgiving through New Year's, it's a tradition in many towns to drape business districts with twinkling skeins of snow-

flake lights on trees and storefronts.

But on Rodeo Drive's three-block stretch of swank emporiums, such decor might seem a little decadent.

So when Baccarat, the renowned French crystal maker, offered to dress up Rodeo, gratis, with 20 handcrafted chandeliers valued at close to \$50,000 apiece, city officials and the chamber of commerce enthusiastically accepted.

The shimmering crystal lamps are suspended from sleek standards temporarily installed by Baccarat at an additional cost of \$500,000.

The bases of the displays include the Baccarat logo. The chandeliers themselves are encased in clear plastic boxes to protect them from the elements.

Yanique Barnes, assistant manager of Cole Haan shoes and accessories, is among the many shopkeepers who applaud the overhead eye candy.

"I think it's very elegant," she said. "It goes well with the street. Anything that draws people and helps them enjoy the shopping experience is good."

But a courtly 82-year-old man waiting for his wife to finish shopping was unmoved.

"I think they're gilding the lily," said the Westwood resident, who gave his name only as Ken. "They may make a statement to some people. I don't know if it's money well spent on [Baccarat's] part."



Baccarat crystal lamps cast a holiday glow on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills, in a display that will remain up until Jan. 2. The 20 handcrafted chandeliers are valued at close to \$50,000 apiece and were installed free by the French maker.

LATW

Gregg Donovan, the city's official greeter who stands on Rodeo Drive attired in silk top hat, red topcoat and white gloves dismissed such criticism. With a little imagination, he suggested, the enclosures resemble gift boxes.

And, "It reminds me of old-fashioned lanterns, so it's kind of nostalgic," he said, flashing a diplomatic grin.

Mayor Mark Egerman has heard nothing but praise for the bold flourish.

"This is the sort of thing everyone can enjoy," he said. "It's sort of like the old [public-relations] joke — I don't care what peo-

ple say as long as they're talking about me."

Each multierred creation — there are six styles — sparkles with 750 to 1,000 multifaceted beads that were either hand-blown or hand-poured before being cut, polished and assembled by craftsmen in Baccarat, France.

"Nothing like this has been done anywhere in the world that we're aware of," said Brent McDanel, a top executive with the 240-year-old company.

The display will end Jan. 2. The chandeliers will be taken down and sold at Geary's and other retail outlets for Baccarat.

STRIPES CLASSIFIED



Jobs Offered

630

CTSC CHINA TECHNOLOGY SERVICES CORPORATION
A Division of China Group Corporation

ALION
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

E-3 AWACS, F-15C, and F-16
Job Opportunities at Kadena AB & Misawa AB Japan – 2005



CTSC and Alion Science & Technology Corporation are looking for highly qualified E-3 AWACS, F-15C and F-16 Instructors in the following positions:

Instructor F-15C Pilots
Instructor F-16C Pilots
Instructor E-3 Mission Crew Commanders
Instructor E-3 Senior Directors
Instructor E-3 Air Surveillance Officers
E-3 Electronic Combat Officers
Instructor E-3 Air Weapons Officers
Instructor E-3 Air Weapons Directors

If you have instructor experience and over 1,000 flight hours in one of the aircraft listed above, send your resume and flight history to: jhsipiche@alionscience.com. To learn more about these exceptional job opportunities accompanied by outstanding benefits, please contact: rfavela@alionscience.com. DoD security clearance required.

Team CTSC/Alion-Support to the Warfighter
EE0A/AA/MF/D/V

Jobs Offered

630

Technology for a
free world.

As a thriving division of industry leader L-3 Communications, Link Simulation & Training is a leading supplier of simulators, training services and effective on-demand instruction for military forces around the world. We are looking for Field Engineer Technicians to join our team.

• Field Engineer Technicians II

Requires 4+ years overall experience in the maintenance of simulation systems, equivalent to the DoD Electronic Maintenance Technician II. Desired skills and experience includes 2+ years of experience in computer generated visual systems, image projection systems, computer systems maintenance and interface systems, as well as having excellent oral and written communication skills. Some travel required. Must qualify for a DoD Secret Security Clearance. Must have completed an AAS Electronics Technician resident course at an accredited technical institute or have completed factory or formal training on these or similar systems.

Location: Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi, Japan & MCAS Iwakuni, Japan

Mailing address:
L-3 Communications
CWS&DET
PSC 477, Box 23
FPO AP 96306-2723

L-3 Phone line 0467-77-9950
To call from the U.S. 011-81-467-77-9950
Fax from Japan 046-763-3272
Fax from the U.S. 011-81-6160-64-3272

Link Simulation & Training is an Equal Opportunity employer, M/F/D/V. Applicants selected are subject to a security investigation and must meet eligibility requirements for access to US Department of Defense classified information. US CITIZENSHIP REQUIRED

L3
communications
Link Simulation & Training

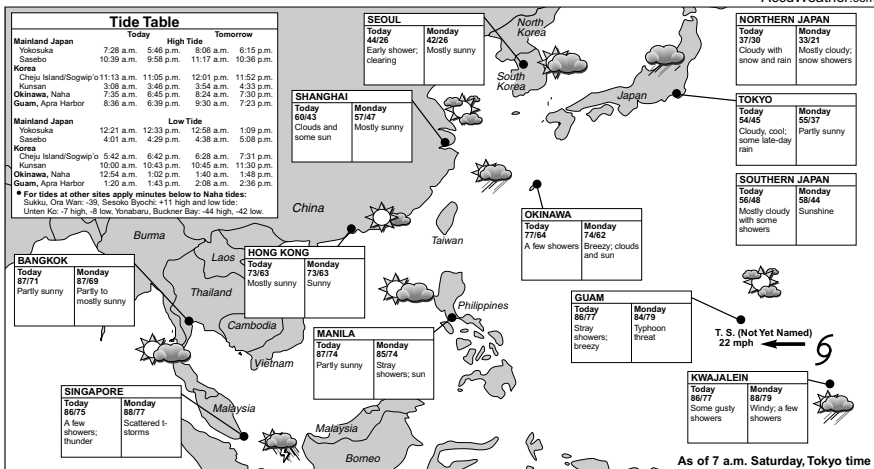
What's
your
scene?

Buy
Stripes this
Sunday
and every
Sunday to
get your
scene!



All forecasts and maps provided by AccuWeather, Inc. © 2004
AccuWeather.com

The Pacific Forecast



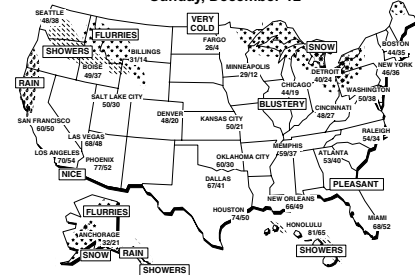
Extended Forecasts

TOKYO Tuesday: Mostly sunny, high 48, low 39. Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 53, low 45.	KADENA Tuesday: Partly sunny, high 44, low 31. Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 74, low 62.	SEOUL Tuesday: Partly sunny, high 44, low 31. Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 48, low 34.	MANILA Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 87, low 70. Wednesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 87, low 74.	HAGATNA Tuesday: Showers, high 86, low 79. Wednesday: Partly sunny, high 88, low 77.
--	---	--	---	---

Friday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	57/34	Los Angeles	83/56
Amarillo	61/34	Little Rock	59/37
Anchorage	22/14	Louisville	53/39
Ashville	61/41	Miami	85/66
Baltimore	53/46	Milwaukee	45/30
Birmingham	60/42	Nashville	55/40
Bismark	34/24	New York	49/44
Boise	55/40	Omaha	39/24
Boston	45/42	Orlando	81/54
Brownsville	87/50	Philadelphia	53/46
Buffalo	46/35	Phoenix	72/52
Burlington	39/34	Pittsburgh	53/38
Charleston, SC	77/47	Portland, OR	60/48
Charlotte	68/44	Portland, ME	40/36
Cleveland	47/35	Salt Lake City	52/36
Columbus, OH	53/36	St. Louis	45/35
Duluth	27/14	San Antonio	74/40
El Paso	65/38	San Diego	74/56
Hartford	42/39	San Juan	86/74
Helena	53/36	Tampa	80/58
Indianapolis	51/35	Tulsa	55/34
Jacksonville	79/46	Washington	55/46
Kansas City	42/29	Wichita	54/29

Sunday, December 12



Report: Irish interested in Pats' Weis

The Associated Press

BOSTON—Count Charlie Weis among the coaching candidates at Notre Dame.

The New England Patriots offensive coordinator could be interviewed by the Irish as early as Friday, The Boston Globe reported on its Web site Thursday night.

The report is "nothing that we would comment on," Patriots spokesman Stacey James said.

Notre Dame is looking for a replacement for fired coach Tyrone Willingham. Football officials also are scheduled to meet with former Irish assistant coach Tom Clements on Friday, a football source told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Clements, in his first season as offensive coordinator with the Buffalo Bills, played quarterback for the Irish under coach Ara Parseghian, leading the

school to an undefeated season and a national championship in 1972.

The Globe attributed its report to Weis to an unidentified source involved in the hiring process at Notre Dame and a source in the NFL with ties to Weis.

Weis' agent, Bob LaMonte, told the AP early Thursday that he had not heard from Notre Dame, saying he thought the school was focusing on Clements. LaMonte did not immediately return another call seeking comment.

Weis did not immediately return a phone message.

John Heisler, Notre Dame's associate athletic director, said Thursday the university would not comment.

Weis attended Notre Dame, but never played college football. He was hired as assistant at South Carolina from 1985-88 and joined the New York Giants as a defensive assistant and assistant special teams coach in 1990. He has also been an assistant with Patriots and Jets before becoming offensive coordinator in New England in 2000.

Study: Less than half of players at 27 of 56 bowl schools graduate

BY MIKE SCHNEIDER

The Associated Press Writer

ORLANDO, Fla. — Twenty-seven of the 56 schools with bowl-bound football teams graduated less than half their players, according to a study released Tuesday.

The annual study by the Institute of Diversity and Ethics in Sports at the University of Central Florida also showed that 39 of the schools graduated less than half their black players.

Among the bowl teams, 51 of 55 graduated at least 40 percent of their white players, according to the study, while just 30 schools graduated at least 40 percent of their black players. Only six schools graduated a higher percentage of black players than white players.

There are 56 teams playing in this year's bowl games, but only 55 teams were examined because Navy doesn't release graduation rates. Last year, 32

bowl-bound teams graduated less than half of their football players.

"You find the gaps between African-American and white football players a little bit wider at the bowl level," said Richard Lapchick, the study's author. "It's a problem throughout Division I-A."

The institute used NCAA statistics for the study. The freshmen were taken from four freshman classes, beginning in 1994-95 and ending in '97-98, with each class given six years to graduate.

This year, the NCAA reported that 54 percent of all football players graduated, an increase of 3 percent over last year. In general student body rate was 60 percent and the overall student-athlete rate was 62 percent.

The schools with the worst graduation rates, both overall and for black players, were Pittsburgh and Texas. Pittsburgh had an overall graduation rate of

31 percent and 20 percent for black players. Texas had an overall graduation rate of 34 percent, 33 percent for its black players.

Texas spokesman Bill Little said the study didn't take into account many football players who left and graduated at other schools after coach Mack Brown took over the program in 1998.

When the change comes, there are guys who don't want to play in that system," Little said.

Pitt spokesman E.J. Borghetti said the report doesn't reflect the school's current graduation rate since 15 of 19 seniors on the team graduated last year, including eight of 11 black players.

"I'm key to emphasizing the report is a snapshot of a football program in the middle of the last decade," Borghetti said. "It's not an accurate portrait of what our football program is in 2004."

Syracuse (78 percent overall, 69 for black players), Notre Dame (78 and 74) and Boston College (77 and 76) had the best graduation rates overall and for black players.

Cooper defends decision to hire Spurrier

BY JACOB JORDAN

The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The only black football coach currently at South Carolina defended the school's decision to hire Steve Spurrier after the Black Coaches Association criticized the position for failing to conduct a full search.

Assistant Ron Cooper, a former head coach at several Division I-A schools, said Thursday he was contacted about the position when Lou Holtz decided to retire earlier this year.

But when athletic director Mike McGee told Cooper there was a chance to hire Spurrier, Cooper said, "if you can hire Steve Spurrier, go hire him now."

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist," Cooper said. "There are a lot of coaches out there that would have said what I said."

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist.

There are a lot of coaches out there that would have said what I said."

Ron Cooper

South Carolina assistant coach on hiring Steve Spurrier

BCA director Floyd Keith told prospective football recruits and assistant coaches to stay away from South Carolina because the school ignored the group's recommendation for a more open coaching search.

Keith said earlier this week that South Carolina never contacted the BCA.

"There was an announcement

and a hire," he said. "That was so fast that a jackrabbit couldn't have had a family between all that."

Cooper, a former head coach at Eastern Michigan, Louisville and Alabama A&M, said he was out of town this week when the news broke.

"I know Floyd and I understand where he's coming from," Cooper said. But "to say that was never brought up, it was brought up and it was talked about."

Three of the five black head coaches at major colleges — Notre Dame's Tyrone Willingham, New Mexico State's Tony Samuel and San Jose State's Fitz Hill — won't be back with their schools next season.

McGee has said the mission of the BCA is important to college football. But he said administrators faced a brief time frame to land someone as prominent as Spurrier.



Heisman Trophy candidates, from left to right, Matt Leinart, of USC; Reggie Bush, of USC; Alex Smith, of Utah; Jason White, of Oklahoma, and Adrian Peterson, of Oklahoma, pose before the start of the Home Depot College Football Awards on Thursday in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

U's white takes Maxwell, Brien

The Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Oklahoma's quarterback Jason White was a two-time award winner in college football, taking the Maxwell Award as best all-around player and adding his second straight Davey O'Brien quarterback trophy.

Texas running back Cedric Benson won the Doak Walker Award on Thursday night.

White, last year's Heisman Trophy winner, also is a finalist for this year's Heisman to be presented Saturday night in New York.

White had 30 touchdown passes and just four interceptions in leading the Sooners (12-0) to the national title game against Southern California in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 4. He beat out teammate Adrian Peterson and Southern California quarterback Matt Leinart for the Maxwell, and topped Leinart and Utah quarterback Alex Smith for the Davey O'Brien Award.

"I'm really very surprised about this, especially after the way our season ended last year," White said, referring to losses in the final two games of the '03 season. "Everybody seemed to really write me off as far as the awards and everything for this year."

This is certainly a great honor. But you know in the grand scheme of things, it really doesn't mean very much unless we're able to win it all. I'd rather be on the best team in the nation than to be the best overall player in the nation."

Leinart didn't leave the awards ceremony empty-handed — he was chosen Walter Camp player of the year. Also a Heisman finalist, Leinart has the top-ranked Trojans (12-0) in position to win a second straight national title. He threw for 2,748 yards and 28 touchdowns.

"I'm really just kind of going into this [Heisman] with an open mind. But I'm going in by not getting my hopes up, either," Leinart said. "I'm just looking forward to the whole experience in New York City and hanging out with ev-

erybody and all of those past winners. It's going to be an honor, and we'll see what happens. I'm just going into it looking to have fun."

The Maxwell Award once was a good predictor of the Heisman with 14 of 19 players earning both awards from 1981-99. But the last four Maxwell winners fell short in winning the Heisman, college football's top individual prize.

"In all honesty, I think that string will probably break five," White said. "I'm not sure about my chances for the Heisman."

Benson's honor signified him as the nation's top runner, having gained 1,764 yards and scoring 20 touchdowns. He beat out Peterson, the Sooners' sensational freshman, and California's J.J. Arington, for the award sponsored by the Southern Methodist Athletic Forum.

"With those guys (Oklahoma) being undefeated and in the national championship game, I'm a little bit surprised," Benson said. "It seems like the undefeated teams always get all the awards. I'm just really honored and glad my name was mentioned, and that my hard work wasn't overlooked."

Georgia defensive end David Pollack won the Chuck Bednarik Trophy as the nation's best defensive player. On Wednesday, the 6-foot-3, 261-pound Pollack won the Lombardi Award as the nation's top lineman.

White wasn't the only award winner from Oklahoma. Offensive tackle Jammal Brown took the Outland Trophy as the nation's best interior lineman.

Also, Michigan's Braylon Edwards took the Bloerikoff Award for best wide receiver; Auburn's Carlos Rogers won the Jim Thorpe Award for best defensive back; Ohio State's Mike Nugent won the Lou Groza Award for best kicker; and Baylor's Daniel Sepulveda took the Ray Guy Award for best punter.

Utah's Urban Meyer, who took over at Florida earlier this week, was chosen The Home Depot coach of the year.

A freshman who's ahead of the class

Oklahoma's Peterson lives up to the hype

BY JEFF LATZKE

The Associated Press

NORMAN, Okla. — Adrian Peterson's arrival at Oklahoma was accompanied by impossible expectations. Before he even stepped on a practice field, he was hyped as one of the nation's best runners who would carry the Sooners to greatness.

Then, in just one season, he proved it wasn't so impossible after all.

Now, the 19-year-old running back will try to become the first player to win the Heisman Trophy as a freshman. No sophomore has won it, either.

He's one of five finalists, joining Sooners quarterback Jason White, Utah quarterback Alex Smith and Southern California teammates Matt Leinart and Reggie Bush. The award will be presented Saturday.

Peterson has rushed for 1,843 yards and 15 touchdowns. He's had at least 100 yards rushing in 11 games — an NCAA freshman record — and is only 20 yards from breaking the NCAA's season rushing record for freshmen, set by Wisconsin's Ron Dayne in 1996.

But Dayne, whose Badgers were 8-5 that year, didn't even break the top 10 in the Heisman voting. The last freshman to make it to the top five was Virginia Tech's Michael Vick, third in 1999.

Not even Maurice Clarett, who rushed for 1,190 yards and 16 touchdowns as he helped Ohio State win the 2002 national championship, found his way into the top 10.

Peterson, though, has run right past Clarett's numbers. And he hasn't made the typical freshman mistakes. He hasn't lost a fumble all season despite leading the nation with 314 carries, helping the No. 2 Sooners (12-0) to an Orange Bowl berth.

against No. 1 Southern California (12-0) for the national championship.

Along the way, Peterson shrugged off the records and the attention. He's not on a mission. He's just doing what he does best.

"I really don't feel like I have to prove anything to anybody," he said. "I just go out there and run."

Teammates no longer view him as a liability in pass blocking — his lone weakness at the start of the season — and White said he's comfortable

White has even said he'd

cast his Heisman vote — as a past winner — for Peterson.

"Adrian brings a lot to the team," White said. "Just his presence being out there, the defense has got to be ready for him."

Colorado coach Gary Barnett, whose team was routed 42-3 by the Sooners in the Big 12 title game, viewed Oklahoma last year as a one-dimensional.

pass-only team the Buffaloes could blitz mercilessly.

"The reason we could do that is because they didn't have Adrian Peterson at that time," Barnett said. "Adrian Peterson takes you out of that mode. He makes you become a really sound, fundamental, basic football team. If you are taking any chances, they better be thought out. That's what he does to you."

One of Barnett's cornerbacks, Terrence Wheatley, said this after facing Peterson: "I have never seen a guy that big, that strong, that fast."

Tackle Jammal Brown, one of three seniors on Oklahoma's offensive line, would vote for Peterson for the Heisman if he could.

"He's the real deal," Brown said. "He makes plays on his own. We block well for him, but a lot of times the things he does are all him. He'll make the first guys miss and he'll outrun the last guy."

"He's the future and will take Oklahoma a long ways in the next few years."

Peterson has taken them far this year. With White struggling against Texas (113 yards, no touchdowns, two interceptions), it was Peterson who lifted the Sooners with 225 rushing yards to outshine Texas tailback Cedric Benson.

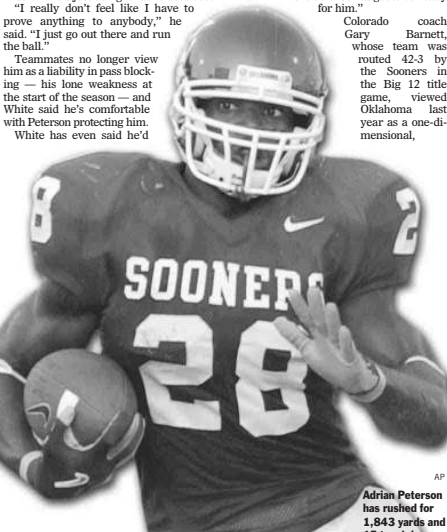
He ran for 249 yards to help Oklahoma edge Oklahoma State 38-35. After a shoulder injury limited his carries against Nebraska, he returned to score three touchdowns each against Baylor and Colorado to bolster his Heisman credentials.

Stoops has refused to pick sides in the Heisman race, but he'll be the first to praise Peterson. When asked what makes the 6-foot-2, 210-pound freshman so successful, Stoops rolled out the

"It's his strength, it's his speed, it's his vision, it's toughness when he takes some-

But will it be enough to beat two undefeated senior quarterbacks?

History says it won't. But it wouldn't be the first time Peterson has done something few thought he could.



Adrian Peterson
has rushed for
1,843 yards and
15 touchdowns.

College football schedule/statistics

Playoffs		Wednesday, Dec. 29		Division I-A team statistics		Total defense		D.V. I-A individual statistics	
Division I-AA Semifinals		Houston Bowl		Texas State-Paso (8-5) vs. Colorado (7-6)		North Carolina State		Rushing	
Friday, Dec. 11		At San Antonio		Louisville		Alabama		Thomas, Mo. Texas	
James Madison (11-2) at William & Mary (11-2)		Ohio State (12-0) at Oklahoma (7-4)		881 5904 536.7		641 2596 259.6		218 1709 67 189.9	
Saturday, Dec. 11		Thursday, Dec. 30		Bowling Green		Virginia Tech		Arlington, Cal.	
San Houston (12-0) at Oklahoma (11-2)		Central Texas State (12-0) at Charlotte, N.C.		882 5828 511.6		735 2818 281.8		264 1845 76 167.7	
Sunday, Dec. 11		Boston College (12-0) at Virginia Tech (6-5)		Bowling Green		Florida State		Benson, Texas	
At Houston, Ala.		Emerald Bowl		817 5818 510.6		721 2971 297.1		303 1764 58 156.6	
Pittsburg State (12-0) at St. Louis (12-1)		At San Francisco		Texas Tech		Southern California		Peterson, Oklahoma	
Division II Semifinals		New Mexico (7-5) vs. Navy (9-2)		Oklahoma		Oklahoma		Murren, Okla. 31	
At Florence, Ala.		At San Diego		Memphis		Penn St.		210 1343 5 153.6	
My Hardin/Smyth (12-0) at Jacksonville, Fla.		At San Diego		Purdue		California		250 1545 4 154.5	
Saturday, Dec. 11		Silicon Valley Classic		Minnesota		Georgia Tech		Seymour, C. Michigan	
Towson, N.J. (12-0) at Linfield, Ore. (11-0)		Troy (7-4) vs. Cal. State, Calif.		Minnesota		Georgia Tech		Jones, Army	
NIAA Championship		Friday, Dec. 31		Minnesota		Georgia Tech		Northwestern	
At Hardin County, Tenn.		At Miami City, Fla.		Southern California		Georgia Tech		Dorsey, UNLV	
St. Francis, Ind. (12-0) at St. Louis, Mo. (11-1)		At Nashville, Tenn.		Southern California		Georgia Tech		Dorsey, UNLV	
		At San Antonio		Southern California		Georgia Tech		Dorsey, UNLV	
Bowl schedule		At San Antonio		Rushing offense		Rushing defense		Passing	
At New Orleans Bowl		At El Paso, Texas		Car Yds Yds Ptg		Car Yds Yds Ptg		Car Yds Yds Ptg	
North Texas (7-4) vs. Southern Miss. (6-5)		Purdue (7-4) vs. Arizona State (9-3)		Rice		Florida State		Lefors, Louisville	
Tuesday, Dec. 12		Liberty Bowl		Texas		California		Smith, Utah	
Champs Sports Bowl		At Memphis, Tenn.		Air Force		California		Barnes, Penn State	
Georgia Tech (6-5) vs. Syracuse (6-5)		Boise State (11-1) at Louisville (10-1)	California		Iowa		Jacobs, Brown		
Wednesday, Dec. 12		At Peach Bowl	West Virginia		New Mexico		Grakowski, Toledo		
GMAC Bowl		At Dallas	Alabama		Purdue		Rodgers, Cal.		
Memphis (8-3) vs. Bowling Green (8-3)		Miami (8-5) vs. Florida (7-4)	Boise State		Nebraska		Leinart, USC		
Thursday, Dec. 13		At Tampa, Fla.	Tennessee (8-3) vs. Texas A&M (7-4)		LSU		Zarnowski, Boise		
Fort Worth (Texas) Bowl		Outback Bowl	Northwestern Illinois		Texas		Ricci, Purdue		
Cincinnati (6-5) vs. Miami (6-5)		Wisconsin (9-2) vs. Georgia (9-2)	Fresno St.		Marshall		Pierce, N. Mexico State		
Friday, Dec. 13		At Jacksonville, Fla.	Passing offense		Passing defense		Receiving		
Wyoming (6-5) vs		Florida State (8-3) vs. West Virginia (8-3)	At Ft. Haudulu		At Ft. Haudulu		Ridgeway, Boise		
		Capital One Bowl	At Orlando, Fla.		At Orlando, Fla.		Bernard, Michigan		
		UAB (7-4) vs. LSU (9-2)	Texas Tech		North Carolina State		Edwards, Michigan		
		New Year Bowl	Hawaii		Virginia Tech		Deshaun, E. Michigan		
		MPC Computers Bowl	Houston (9-2) at Pasadena, Calif.		Wisconsin		Stubblefield, Purdue		
		Fresno State (8-5) at Virginia (8-3)	At Tampa		Penn St.		L'Avais, Marshall		
		At Miami City, Fla.	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		At Pontiac, Mich.	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		Toledo (9-3) vs. Miami (6-5)	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		Tuesday, Dec. 28	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		Independence Bowl	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		At Sheepshead, N.J.	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		Iowa State (6-5) vs. Miami (10-0) (8-4)	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		At Phoenix	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		
		Oregon State (12-0) vs. Notre Dame (6-5)	At Miami City, Fla.		Missouri		Moore, Toledo		

UMass upsets UConn in Freeman's basket

BY DONNA TOMMELLEO

The Associated Press

AMHERST, Mass. — Connecticut didn't have to travel far to hit its first bump in the road.

Massachusetts stunned the seventh-ranked Huskies 61-59 on Rashaun Freeman's layup with 4.3 seconds to play Thursday night, prompting many of the 9,037 fans to storm the court after the final buzzer.

"I felt like we won the national championship. I never saw a crowd like that around here," UMass guard Anthony Anderson said. "We've been saying that this was our year. Maybe we showed it tonight."

It was UConn coach Jim Calhoun's first loss to UMass in 19 years with the Huskies, the defending national champions who made the short trip up Interstate 91 for their first road game after nine at home.

They outworked us," Calhoun said. "Steve (Lapkas) got his kids jacked up for the game. They played exceptionally hard. There was no reason for us not to play hard. ... I couldn't be more disappointed."

Freeman, who had 18 points and eight rebounds, came through repeatedly to help the Minutemen (2-2) beat the Huskies (4-1) for the first time in 14 games.

"It was a gutsy win for our kids," Lapkas said.

Freeman and his teammates got the better of UConn's frontcourt, which had been outre-

bounding opponents by 25 boards a game. The teams finished even with 39 rebounds, but UMass had a slight edge on the glass in the first half and outscored Connecticut 42-24 inside.

"I told them at halftime we outrebounded UConn. That's unbelievable," Lapkas said. "I also told them that we outscored them for a half, that's also unbelievable. Now the big challenge — we've got to win the second half."

The Huskies came back from a 12-point, first-half deficit and held a tenuous five-point lead late in the game. But Freeman hit consecutive baskets with under 4 minutes left, pulling the Minutemen to 55-54.

Turnovers doomed the Huskies down the stretch. Antonio Kellogg dribbled the ball off his foot, and the Minutemen made him pay. Jeff Viggiano hit a three-pointer with 55.2 seconds left to give UMass a 57-55 lead.

"It had to be my best basket at UMass," Viggiano said. "It helps when your teammates get behind you."

After UConn's Rudy Gay hit two free throws to tie it on the next possession, the Minutemen recaptured on the inbound play and Art Bowers hit Freeman in full stride for the winner. For Freeman, the buzzer came just in time.

"I had leg cramps at the end," Freeman said. "I really didn't want to go into overtime." Gay had 13 points for UConn. Josh Boone added 12 points and led the Huskies with nine rebounds.



Connecticut's Alassane Kouyate (21) has his path to the basket blocked by Massachusetts' Rashaun Freeman in Thursday night's game.

Illinois, Kansas show why they're 1-2

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Chants of "Overrated! Overrated!" belated from the Georgetown fans even before the opening whistle. Illinois needed about 14 minutes to shut them up.

After trailing for much of the first half, a rarity this season, the top-ranked Fighting Illini took control with a 14-2 run just before the break and shot 65 percent in the second half Thursday night in a 74-59 victory over the Hoyas.

"We're going to take people's shots," coach Bruce Weber said. "When you're in the top five, or one or whatever, people are going to be fired up. Our kids have got to realize that."

On a night when the Illini's outsize shots weren't falling, Roger Powell exploited Georgetown's inferior defense for 19 points on

Men's Top 25 Roundup

8-for-11 shooting. James Augustine added 15 points and six rebounds. Guards Lather Head, Deron Williams and Dee Brown were a combined 10-for-25, but each had at least five assists to help overcome the team's season-low five three-pointers in 15 attempts.

Illinois finished with 20 assists, just off its nation-leading 22.3 average.

"If the three's are going, we're playing at home, that's great," Weber said. "But today they weren't going. We had to chill out. And I think we did a good job of that, at least enough to get a big lead."

The victory moved Illinois (8-0) two-thirds of the way to holding a No. 1 ranking for consecutive weeks for the first time in school history. The Illini lost their first game the previous two times they gained the top spot. This time, they've held their own with two victories, with a game against Oregon in Chicago on Saturday to wind up the week.

Freshman Jeff Green had 20 points and six rebounds to lead Georgetown (3-2), which had won three straight after an opening loss to Temple.

No. 2 Kansas 93, TCU 74: At Lawrence, Kan., Wayne Simien had 20 points and Keith Langford added 17 for the Jayhawks (5-0), who had five players in double figures against the Horned Frogs.

Walk-on Christian Moody had career highs with 10 points and

10 rebounds, and teamed with guard J.R. Giddens on the play of the year.

With 5:11 left and the Jayhawks holding a 13-point lead, Moody took the ball under the basket and fired a blind one-handed pass over his head to Giddens on the wing. Giddens then dropped in a three-pointer that brought a roar from the sellout crowd and put Kansas on top 77-61.

Nile Murry had 20 points for TCU (5-3), although he was hampered by foul problems much of the second half. Corey Santee added had 14.

Chudi Chinweze, TCU's 6-foot-7 junior, landed awkwardly on the floor with 3:08 left and appeared to hurt his left leg. Play was stopped for several minutes while he was helped into the locker room. He finished with 10 points.

Play the

NFL Challenge

WIN CASH!

Mondays in Stars and Stripes and on Oconus.com

New Gamer Laptop with AMD 64 processor!!!

LED TV's, MP3 Players, Digital Cameras and much more...with easy monthly payments. No Down Payment Needed!!!

Get your Christmas shopping done early!!!

www.militarycomputers.us or www.militarysource.net

Bob King, former New Mexico coach, dies at 81

The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Bob King, who developed New Mexico into a basketball power during his 10 seasons as coach, died Friday at age 81.

King died at Veteran's Administration Hospital, where he had been hospitalized since falling at his home Nov. 16. He had a history of health problems, beginning with a heart attack and cerebral aneurysm in 1978.

King had a 175-89 record at New Mexico from 1963 through 1972, winning Western Athletic

College hoops briefs

Conference titles in 1964 and 1968. The 1964 team made it to the NIT finals, one of three times the Lobos played in the NIT. The 1968 team was 23-5 and made the school's first-ever appearance in the NCAA tournament.

"He was a classy gentleman who will be missed by many people but never forgotten," New Mexico athletic director Rudy Davalos said.

Ritchie McKay, the current

coach whose father, Joe, played for King, said the program is mindful of King's legacy.

"I'm one of the proud beneficiaries of the values and principles he instilled, and the impact he made on his players and peers," McKay said.

New Mexico State coach Lou Benson said King "is the one that really brought big-time basketball to the state of New Mexico." New Mexico's success under King led to construction of a 14,000-seat University Arena, known as The Pit, which opened in 1966.

Air Force clears Nwaelele

AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Air Force guard Dan Nwaelele, who was suspended for the first six games of the season while under investigation for academic cheating, was cleared to play on Saturday as the Falcons face third-ranked Georgia Tech.

Nwaelele was reinstated Thursday as a cadet "in good standing following a legal and command review," the academy reported.

Cadets can be suspended for honor, academic, military or medical violations.

PREGNANCY A PROBLEM?

CALL WOMEN'S CLINIC IN GUAM, USA (671)646-6111

Confidentially Assured Military Welcome

visit our website at www.guamwomensclinic.com

NHL players offer to cut salaries 24 percent

By IRA PODELL
The Associated Press

TORONTO — The NHL players' association triggered the lockout a week later, the members with its latest offer to save the hockey season.

When the owners walked away Thursday after the first bargaining session in three months, they had a 236-page document to go through and an offer of a 24 percent rollback of all salaries to consider.

"It was shocking for me to hear it," said Dallas forward Bill Guerin, a member of the executive board. "That's a lot of money out of a guy's pocket to be giving up."

But like the Sept. 9 bargaining session that triggered the lockout a week later, the new offer doesn't provide the cost certainty that Commissioner Gary Bettman is seeking for the 30 NHL clubs.

He noted that one aspect — presumably the rollback — was significant. But he still isn't in favor of a luxury-tax system, that players prefer, over a salary cap.

A cap is an option the union says it will never accept.

"We have said consistently that the focus must be on the overall systemic issues and the long-term needs and health of our game," Bettman said.

By union estimates, the six-year, six-point proposal would save the NHL a total that exceeds \$1 billion.

The union said all current contracts would be cut, a move that would save NHL teams \$270 million in the first year and \$528 million over three years. The players' association offer on Sept. 9 only included a

Bettman

5 percent salary rollback. Another key portion of the proposal is a luxury tax, but those numbers were similar to the previous offer. If a deal is there to be made, the payroll tax would likely be the area that provides the most room for negotiation.

"I'm not sitting here saying that something couldn't be moved or adjusted, but I am saying this is the basis for an agreement, this is the basis for the lockout this year," NHLPA executive director Bob Goodenow said.

Bettman said the NHL needed time to go through the offer. The sides agreed to postpone the next meeting from Friday until

Tuesday, either in New York or Toronto.

At that time, Bettman said the league will likely make a counterproposal.

Time is running short to work out a deal and still have a legitimate season. Already 382 regular-season games, plus the All-Star Game, have been cancelled.

Bettman declined to announce a drop-dead date that would make the NHL the first major North American league to cancel an entire season over a labor dispute.

"When we have the deal, we'll see what we can do about having a semblance of a season," Bettman said.

After this major giveback offer, players had an even stronger resolve against a cap. "If they want to come back with a linkage to a salary cap, then there will be no season," said Ottawa forward Daniel Alfredsson, who would stand to lose millions of a recently signed five-year deal.

The proposed luxury tax would penalize teams 20 cents for each dollar they spend between \$45 million and \$50 million. The penalty would increase to 25 percent the second year and 30 percent in the third.

Teams spending between \$50 million and \$60 million would be taxed 50 cents on the dollar the first year, 55 cents the second year and 60 cents the third. Those with

payrolls above that would have to pay 60 cents for every dollar the first year, 65 cents the second, and 70 cents the third year on each dollar over the threshold.

The NHLPA offered to change arbitration and make it more like baseball's system in which clubs and players submit figures for an arbitrator to decide on.

An entry-level contract cap of \$850,000 also was proposed, which would return the ceiling to that of the 1995 draft class. Last season, the cap on entry-level contracts was \$1,295 million.

The players' association also proposed a revenue-sharing plan to bring the bottom 15 teams within 30 percent of the revenues of the top 15 teams.

"This is no grandstand play... This is serious negotiations," Goodenow said.

Arenas have been given the go-ahead by the league to free dates previously reserved for hockey on a 4-day rolling basis. As of now, that means there won't be any games before late January.

Bettman has said that teams lost a total of more than \$1.8 billion over 10 years and that management will not agree to a deal without a defined relationship between revenue and salaries. Owners say teams lost \$273 million in 2002-03 and \$224 million last season.

With skill and grace, Hamm set standard for all athletes

Her was the game that launched a thousand kicks, then tens of thousands, then millions, a rare blend of brains, beauty and hard-nosed grace that redefined what it meant to play like a girl.

But Mia Hamm's influence didn't end there.

Like every great athlete, she knew that every game mattered, that every time she stepped onto the field, she raised the bar, every body who played alongside or after her would have to pull that little bit extra out of themselves.

And if making teammates better is the ultimate compliment bestowed on an athlete, what more can be said about Hamm and that small band of soccer players who lifted an entire sport to heights that once seemed unimaginable.

This: Under her leadership, they never, ever took a night off.

"We all understand there's a bigger perspective," Hamm said Wednesday night, moments after joining longtime teammates and fellow retirees Julie Foudry and Joy Fawcett on the sidelines after a 5-0 win over Mexico. "We want to make sure this game and these girls go forward together."

Wednesday night's game in Car-

son, Calif., was the last in a 10-match, post-Olympics tour by the U.S. national team to mark the end of an era. The game itself was little more than a chance for the trio to take their bows on the international scene one final time in what soccer fans call a "friendly."

Typically, though, Hamm wouldn't allow the friendly part of the evening until she'd taken care of business.

In the opening 20 minutes, she set up the first two goals and saw her bid for another riotous off the crossbar. Midway through the second half, with the U.S. women already ahead 5-0, Hamm chased a teammate's pass into the goal-box and ran into Mexican goalkeeper Pamela Tajonar instead, a collision that left her clutching her knee and writhing on the turf.

It wasn't until she'd hobbled around for another 15 minutes or so that Hamm finally waved off the pitch, stopping to shake hands with every player and coach.

Like all pioneers, she and the handful of others who blazed the trail for women's soccer were overachievers by nature. They put their lives on hold and bottled up their emotions for almost 20 years on that long, difficult march to find a place to play. They never had to be told to act like ambassadors. They always knew exactly what was at stake.

"Think of it this way: Imagine that Magic, Larry Bird, Michael Jordan, Shaq, Kobe and LeBron were all on one team for 15 years. That's what we have had with our women's national team," U.S. na-

tional team coach April Heinrichs said.

It wasn't simply the winning that made this bunch remarkable, though there was plenty of that: World Cup championships in 1991 and 1999, and Olympic gold medals last summer and in 1996. It wasn't just about proving to TV, corporate sponsors and the other half of America that women athletes can draw an audience and keep it, though they accomplished that, too. It wasn't just about opportunities for women and girls, either, though you could make the argument they did more to create those than anything this side of Title IX.

She's the first real team superstar that women's sports produced, and as such, she's undoubtedly inspired more girls to step onto a playing surface than all other female athletes combined.

It didn't hurt that Hamm was attractive, articulate and way more modest than any man who's ever achieved such a lofty status. Of course, those things do make it tougher on anybody who would step into her shoes, which is exactly the way Hamm would have wanted it.

"Ask yourself if you could have your choice of role models, would you ask for a day with Mia Hamm or Julie Foudry or with a famous male athlete of today?" Heinrichs said as the celebration drew to a close. "They had an impact on America's consciousness, on women's sports, on women's voices."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@aol.com.

U.S. sprinter Collins suspended eight years

The Associated Press

DENVER — Sprinter Michelle Collins was suspended for eight years for a doping violation linked to the BALCO scandal and will forfeit results that include 2003 indoor world and U.S. titles in the 200 meters.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency said Friday that a three-member panel of the American Arbitration Association concluded Collins, 33, used various performance-enhancing substances that allegedly were provided by the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative.

Though Collins never tested positive for banned substances, the appeals panel concluded she used the drugs for several years.

"She engaged in a pattern of doping involving multiple drugs over a substantial period of time, during which she engaged and succeeded in many competitions," the ruling said. "The steroids she took, such as THG, and the complex and coordinated timing of her doping were designed, even more than the usual doping offenses, not to be detected."

USADA based its case on patterns observed from blood and urine tests Collins had in recent years, along with documents seized from BALCO by federal prosecutors and statements made by BALCO officials.

Among the documents re-

viewed in the arbitration were e-mails Collins sent to BALCO owner Victor Conte, including one in which she asked whether she could use a testosterone gel with a cream she already had.

Monty, Woods, Fyrik tied

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Colin Montgomerie was thrilled to get an invitation from Tiger Woods to play in his year-end tournament with 15 of the best players in golf. Even better was matching Woods' score.

Montgomerie hit a 5-wood into about 8 feet for eagle on the 16th hole, giving him a 4-under 67 and a share of the lead Thursday with Woods and Jim Furyk after the first round of the Target World Challenge.

Woods and Fyrik didn't do anything quite so dramatic. They kept out of trouble and avoided the kind of mistakes that knocked Chris DiMarco out of the lead twice and sent Vijay Singh to a 1-over 74, matching the worst round on a pristine day at Sherwood Country Club.

Utah State hires Guy

LOGAN, Utah — Brent Guy was hired to coach Utah State on Friday after spending the last four seasons as an assistant with Arizona State.

Guy, a former Utah State assistant from 1992-94, was defensive coordinator and linebackers coach for the Sun Devils. He replaces Mick Denney, who was fired after posting a 19-37 record in the past five years.

Shipping to APO's & FPO's since 1999 USA 1-800-222-6133 A TOP SERVICE Yahoo Store

WWW.MICHAELSCOUTS.COM

Panthers F Jackson continues hot streak

Junior has 43 points, 19 rebounds to lead Kadena over Kubasaki

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Z'aire Jackson's statistics in his past two games seem other-worldly.

The Kadena Panthers junior forward continued his one-man display of hoop pyrotechnics Friday night, scoring 43 points, grabbing 19 rebounds and blocking five shots in a 103-93 Okinawa Activities Council triumph on the Kubasaki Dragons' home court.

Jackson has 87 points, 31 rebounds and 11 blocks in his past two games, including Kadena's 95-79 victory last Saturday over Machara, a Japanese team.

"He's [Jackson] been a man on a mission," Kadena coach Robert Bliss said. "I'm impressed. He's so aggressive going to the basket, he can read where the ball's coming off [the backboards], he moves so well and so quickly. He can make the big plays."

Jackson's deeds overcame a huge performance by Kubasaki senior guard Marcus Carson, who had 32 points, eight rebounds, six assists and five steals before fouling out in the fourth quarter. Junior Stephen Thompson added 23 points and 11 rebounds and Steve Ellis added 23 points.

Carson "played an unbelievable game," Bliss said. "He did so many things well. And Thompson played beautifully, too. Our Panthers senior guard Tyler Schmidt keyed a 15-4 run with a driving layup late in the first quarter, and the Panthers led by as many as 11 before Thompson's inside bucket cut it to 46-44 just before halftime.

Carson scored 14 third-quarter points, two on a driving layup just as the shot clock expired, sparking the Dragons to an 11-point lead. But Kadena rallied, with Schmidt's jumper from the right side slicing it to 70-69 as the third quarter ended.

Kadena's Terence Reid, who scored 18 points, sank his fifth three-pointer just as the fourth quarter opened, giving Kadena the lead for keeps.

The victory avenged Kubasaki's 76-72 victory over Kadena two weeks ago during the 35th Hong Kong International School Holiday Tournament.

In that game, senior Ronnie Stephens led the way with 22 points, but he sprained an ankle during the tournament and hasn't played since.

Dragons coach Chris Sullivan said not having Stephens was a factor, as were fouls — Kubasaki lost starting guard Vincent Hobbs and forward Reggie Pearson to fouls, in addition to Carson.

But the big factor, Sullivan said, was "too much 33," referring to Jackson's jersey number.

"He has such a strong move to the basket. He slices well and he goes up so high. He has a terrific first step to the basket," Sullivan said.

Unlike the boys' shootout, the



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Kadena Panthers' Z'aire Jackson, blocks a shot by Kubasaki Dragons' Stephen Thompson (25) on Friday at Camp Foster, Okinawa. Kadena beat Kubasaki 103-93.

Panthers-Dragons girls game began and ended as a one-sided affair, as Kadena junior Liz Cotto and senior Sherlissa Dukes scored 16 points each in a 61-41 romp over Kubasaki in a battle of the past two Far East Class AA Tournament champions.

Korea

Seoul American 76, Osan 31: At Osan Air Base, South Korea, junior point guard Jay Higgins scored 19 points and grabbed 15 rebounds as the Falcons improved to 2-0 in the Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference with a rout of Osan American on Friday.

The 6-foot-5 Higgins played in the shadows of back-to-back Far East Class AA Tournament MVPs Nino Etienne and Jake Abramowitz, but showed he's ready for a starting role.

"Higgins was just unbelievable," Falcons coach Steve Boyd said. "This was his coming out. He just took the game over. The past couple of years, he was the supporting cast, but I said before this season, this was his and (backup) Jamal's Moh's team to run. Tonight, he was the difference-maker."

Boyd's other advantage was putting Phillippe Anglade, a quick defender, on Cougars scorer Chris Durham in a "box-and-one" defense. Durham, who had nine first-quarter points, was held for four the rest of the way.

Likewise, the Falcons girls, 60-29 winners over the Cougars, gave Osan American's 6-foot-10 center Margaret Nurse fits inside, holding her to 13 points. Seoul American's girls joined the boys at 2-0 in KAIAAC play.



LUXURY TRAVEL NOW MADE EXTRA REWARDING

WITH VOLVO EVERY JOURNEY IS MEANT TO INSPIRE. NOW FOR 2005 THERE'S MORE THAN 168 EXCITING NEW FEATURES AND VOLVO'S UNIQUE MILITARY PROGRAM TO STIR YOUR IMAGINATION. CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITE MODEL BEFORE DEC 31 AND YOU MAY SOON BE PACKING FOR A GREAT HOLIDAY FOR TWO IN THAILAND, COURTESY OF VOLVO (EST. VALUE \$ 2,000). FOR FULL DETAILS CONTACT YOUR VOLVO CAR'S MILITARY SALES REPRESENTATIVE OR VISIT WWW.VOLVOCARS.COM/MILITARYSALES

VOLVO CAR'S MILITARY SALES. IT'S A GREAT DEAL.

VOLVO
for life



GUAM: Triple J Enterprises Inc., Mr Jeff Curtis, 157 South Marine Drive, Tamuning, Guam 96931, USA, Tel.: 671.646.3600/4428, militarysales@triplejguam.com

JAPAN, Okinawa: Volvo Cars Japan Corporation, Okinawa Military Sales, Mr James Brunt, 2-1-21 Mihama Chatsan-Cho, Nakagami-Gun, Okinawa 904-0115, Tel.: +81-98352640 (or 8641), info@militarysalesjapan.com www.militarysalesjapan.com

JAPAN, Yokosuka: Volvo Cars Japan Corporation, Military Sales Yokosuka, Mr Romulus Augustus, Koizumi bldg. 1f, Honcho, 2-3-2, Yokosuka city, Kanagawa 238-0041, Tel.: 81-468253265, sales@militarysalesjapan.com www.militarysalesjapan.com

KOREA, Seoul: Volvo Car Korea Co. Ltd., Mr Steve Kim, Volvo TDS office, B1 floor Volvo Building, 726-173 Hannam Dong, Yongsan-ku, Seoul 140-210, Tel.: +82-2-3781-3890, skim1@volvocars.com

KOREA, Osan: Volvo Car Korea Co. Ltd., Mr Tony Castaneda, Pyeongtaek-city, Kyunggi-do 459-121 Osan, Tel.: +82-31-663-2604, tcastan1@volvocars.com



Pittsburgh's Jerome Bettis, above, (12,980 rushing yards) and the Jets' Curtis Martin (12,974) are close to achieving another milestone.

Steelers, Jets meet in AFC showdown

By Dave Goldberg
The Associated Press

The Pittsburgh Steelers barely escaped a loss in Jacksonville last week, thanks to Ben Roethlisberger's first late game-winning drive. It's unlikely New York can catch New England in the AFC East, but the Jets lead the wild-card race by two games and have Chad Pennington back at quarterback.

Pittsburgh, which can clinch its division with a win, is favored by 6 points. That seems like a lot, especially for a team that tends to play things close, but the spread jumped when the Jets confirmed that defensive end John Abraham, who is having a career year, is out with a knee injury.

There might actually be more at stake for Pittsburgh than New York in this one. The Steelers handed the Patriots their only loss, giving them the edge for home-field advantage in the playoffs if they win out. The Jets have their wild-card lead, and the teams behind them are stumbling a bit, so a defeat wouldn't kill them.

Pittsburgh seems to have a touch of magic. In Jacksonville, the Steelers scored two touchdowns in the first 13 minutes. Then they were held scoreless until the Jaguars took the lead with just under 2 minutes left.

So Roethlisberger simply completed three consecutive passes to get Pittsburgh scoring position, and Jeff Reed kicked a 36-yard field goal. Most important, the Jets are 0-9 in Pennsylvania. Make that 0-10, barely.

STEELERS, 17-16.
Cincinnati (plus 11) at New England: The Bengals' comeback win in Baltimore last week was their most impressive in more than a decade. But the Patriots have been on a rampage since losing in Pittsburgh, and Corey Dillon should be up for his ex-mates.

PATRIOTS, 31-17.
Indianapolis (minus 10½) at

NFL picks

Houston: Peyton Manning had five TD passes in a 49-14 win over the Texans in Indy and would break Dan Marino's season record of 48 if he does it again. ... **COLTS, 34-26.**

St. Louis (plus 6½) at Carolina: Chris Chandler starts in place of the injured Marc Bulger for St. Louis, which has a chance to win the NFC West with a losing record. ... **PANTHERS, 24-17.**

New Orleans (plus 7) at Dallas: Julius Jones has revived Dallas' offense. ... **COWBOYS 31-20.**

Philadelphia (minus 9) at Washington: Is there any reason to think the Eagles won't finish 15-17? ... **EAGLES, 20-2.**

Oakland (plus 7½) at Atlanta: Atlanta wraps up the NFC South. ... **FALCONS, 24-20.**

Tampa Bay (plus 5½) at San Diego: Bucs are coming on; San Diego might be down after big win. ... **BUCS, 22-20.**

Seattle (plus 6½) at Minnesota: Two feeble NFL contenders. ... **VIKINGS, 37-30.**

New York Giants (plus 10) at Baltimore: These Giants look like the team that lost its final eight last season. ... **RAVENS, 24-6.**

Kansas City (off) at Tennessee (Monday night): This kind of matchup is the reason the league will be more flexible with prime-time games in the future. ... **CHIEFS, 34-27.**

Chicago (plus 7) at Jacksonville: The Jaguars' six wins are by a total of 23 points. ... **JAGUARS, 17-12.**

Cleveland (plus 11½) at Buffalo: Who knows what would have happened if the Bills hadn't stumbled early. ... **BILLS, 27-10.**

Miami (plus 11½) at Denver: Jake Plummer's erratic ways won't matter here. ... **BRONCOS, 24-10.**

Detroit (plus 9½) at Green Bay: An indoor team at Lambeau in December. ... **PACKERS, 32-9.**

San Francisco (plus 6½) at Arizona: Even with Danny Green's QB shuffle. ... **CARDS, 24-15.**

Last week: 7-8-1 (spread), 9-7 (straight up).
Season: 92-97-4 (spread), 125-67 (straight up).

Shanahan says he intends to honor Broncos contract

The Associated Press

DENVER — Trying to defuse rumors that he might be leaving soon, Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said Thursday night that he intends to honor the final four years of his contract.

Some media outlets have reported the Broncos coach could be a candidate for the vacant job at Notre Dame. Last month, Shanahan was rumored to be a candidate for the Miami Dolphins job.

Speculation about his future has increased in the past couple of days. Last Sunday, the Broncos lost their second straight game and fell to 7-5, two games out of first place in the AFC West and tied for the final AFC wild-card spot.

"As I've said all along, I have four years remaining on my contract here and I intend to honor it," Shanahan said in a statement made available by Broncos spokesman Jim Saccomano.

That was much more emphatic stance than the coach took Wednesday when, asked if he would return next year if given the go-ahead, he essentially ignored the question and said he wanted to concentrate on Denver's upcoming game against Miami.

Broncos owner Pat Bowlen has long said Shanahan has the job as long as he wants it. This is Shanahan's 10th season with the Broncos. He has not won a playoff game since the 1999 Super Bowl, when John Elway's final game with the team.

FBI: Racial hate mail sent to NFL reaching high schools

CLEVELAND — A person who has sent threatening letters denouncing interracial relationships to some NFL players and

Middleman: From tiny Lovington, N.M., Uracher hits the big time in Chicago

MIDDLEMAN, FROM BACK PAGE

bers that certainly would be higher if he hadn't been forced out of four games.

"It's what I do, you know. I love to play, everyone knows that, I think I say it every week," Uracher said.

"You know it's my job. I like being out there with my teammates, I love practicing, I love being in the locker room. It's just, football is fun. That's really all I can say about it. I want to get back out there as fast as I could."

In June 2003, Uracher signed a nine-year, \$58.5 million contract and there have been several commercial endorsements, making him one of the city's most recognizable personalities.

He grew up in the small New Mexican town of Lovington, population 9,000, and now he's a fixture in a metropolitan area of 8 million.

NFL Briefs

other prominent black men now is targeting high school athletes, authorities said Thursday.

St. Ignace and St. Edward, two Catholic high schools in Cleveland with well-known sports programs, received threatening letters addressed to student athletes, FBI special agent Bob Hawk said. St. Ignace received eight letters on Nov. 30. St. Edward received two letters last week.

"The sentence structure is very similar to the paragraph structure, the verbiage structure. They're all computer generated," Hawk said. "We're convinced that it's the same letter writer."

Hawk said he only knew of schools in Ohio receiving letters.

Over the past two years, 60 such letters have been sent to at least six NFL players and other well-known black men across the nation, including civic and business leaders. None of the recipients has been identified.

The mail, postmarked from cities in northeastern Ohio and Pennsylvania, criticized interracial relationships and directed the men to end such relationships "or they're going to be castrated, shot or set on fire."

The FBI says it has no suspect and is asking anyone with information to contact the agency.

Broncos waive punter/kicker Knorr, pick up Baker

DENVER — Several weeks of lackluster punts and kickoffs cost Micah Knorr his job with the Denver Broncos on Thursday.

"I just know I've never seen an athlete like him," Bears coach Louie Smith said. "I've never seen a superstar like him. He's a perfect teammate to the guys in the locker room. He will let you coach him. ... A lot of times some of the superstars have answers and they don't let you coach them. But he's definitely not that way."

Uracher's instincts are certainly responsible for much of his success. He seems to have a feel for the ball, has the speed and strength to chase down ball carriers, knock down quarterbacks or break up passes.

But he also studies more than most people know, says defensive coordinator Ron Rivera, a linebacker on the Bears' only Super Bowl winner.

"I think people don't realize that Brian comes in on Mondays and off days and is watching

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by team's prognosis:
Saskatchewan WR Jerry Rice (strained left quadriceps) and WR Barry Klein (sprained right knee) are probable for Sunday's game at Minnesota.

San Diego WR Tim Lincecum (core hamstring) is out for Sunday's game against the New York Jets. QB Ben Roethlisberger (left knee) is probable for Thursday and is listed as probable. **San Diego** RB Emmitt Smith (sprained left big toe) upgraded from doubtful to questionable for Sunday's game against San Francisco.

Denver waived Knorr and signed Jason Baker, cut a day earlier by Indianapolis.

Knorr is thought to have a good leg, but he struggled Sunday in Denver's 20-17 loss to the Chargers. Two punts didn't go 40 yards; one was returned to the Denver 21 and resulted in a San Diego touchdown.

The Broncos struggled with field position all day, and all four Chargers scores came off drives that began in Denver territory.

Knorr's 41.5-yard average is 12th in the AFC and his net of 34.2 is tied for 14th. He leads the league in touchbacks on kickoffs with 15, but only four of those have come in the past seven games.

Bills CB Vincent might return after two-month hiatus

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Buffalo Bills cornerback Troy Vincent could play for the first time in more than two months Sunday against Cleveland.

Vincent tore cartilage in his right knee in the third game of the season, had surgery and has not played since.

He practiced this week, and coach Mike Mularkey sounded optimistic about the possibility of him playing against the Browns.

"He's had a really good week of work," Mularkey said Friday.

Uracher's concern this week is Jacksonville's Fred Taylor and Byron Leftwich, finding a way to disrupt the Jaguars' offense as they try to rally to reach the playoffs with a strong final month.

Uracher sometimes sits out practice — he did on Thursday this week — for precautionary measures and admitted he was weary last week after having missed the previous two games. But that won't keep him from being one of the most active players on the field Sunday.

"Our job is to not over-act and I want to play as much as I can," he said. "So it comes down to just loving to play and being out there with my teammates."

'New' D-backs add Russ Ortiz

Arizona follows signing of Glaus by picking up ex-Atlanta rightie

BY JIMMY GOLEN
The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Arizona Diamondbacks kept busy Friday, signing free-agent pitcher Russ Ortiz to a four-year, \$33 million deal a day after agreeing to terms with slugger Troy Glaus. "I could see that they were serious," Ortiz said after slipping on a Diamondbacks jersey as Glaus looked on. "Winning's important."

I wanted to be a part of what they're trying to accomplish. "They convinced me from day one they were headed in that direction," he said.

The Diamondbacks are trying to rebound from last season's 51-111 record that left them last in the NL West. They signed Glaus, the 2002 World Series MVP, to a four-year, \$45 million deal even before baseball's winter meetings ended.

They're still trying to trade ace Randy Johnson or sign him to an extension. "Randy is obviously an icon for this city," Diamondbacks managing partner Ken Kendrick said. "We'd love to have Randy be with us and finish his career with us. I think he knows that."

Ortiz went 15-9 with a 4.13 ERA in 204 innings for Atlanta last season, but slumped late and won't be in his last 10 regular-season starts.

Ortiz started Game 4 of the first-round playoff series against the Houston Astros and gave up five runs in three innings. Atlanta was eliminated in five games.

Since the end of the season, Arizona also hired manager Bob Melvin. He got the job after the Diamondbacks decided to hire Wally Backman but then cut him loose after revelations that he'd had legal problems.

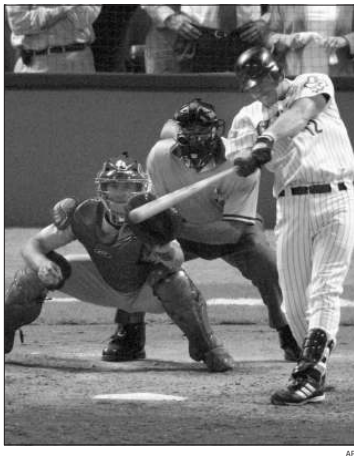
"The new Diamondbacks are representative ... of the type of guys we want to go forward with," Kendrick said.

Ortiz pitched five seasons for the San Francisco Giants before going to Atlanta and pitching two years with the Braves, making the NL All-Star team in 2003 when he went 21-7 with a 3.81 ERA. He is 103-60 with a 4.00 ERA in his career with 4,004 strikeouts in 13,411 innings.

Ortiz is one of three pitchers, along with Bartolo Colon and Greg Maddux, to win at least 14 games in each of the past six seasons, and his 77 victories since the 2000 All-Star break is the most in the NL. He also did not miss a start in his career.

Also on Friday, the Anaheim Angels called a news conference and were expected to announce the signing of center fielder Steve Finley.

Finley would play center field with Garret Anderson moving to left. The Angels traded starting left fielder Jose Guillen to the Washington Nationals last month,



Jeff Kent ended a scoreless duel in the 10th inning of Game 5 of the NL championship series with this three-run homer for the Houston Astros.

leaving an opening in their outfield.

The 39-year-old Finley was a key in the Los Angeles Dodgers' playoff run last season — their first postseason appearance since 1996.

He hit .263 with 13 homers and 46 RBIs in 58 games for the Dodgers after being acquired from Arizona on July 31. Overall, Finley hit .271 with 36 homers and 94 RBIs.

A four-time Gold Glove Award winner and two-time All-Star, Finley has a career batting average of .276 with a .450 slugging percentage. He has averaged 27 homers and 87 RBIs over the past six years.

Finley's grand slam on the next-to-last day of last season capped a seven-run ninth inning, giving the Dodgers a 7-3 victory over San Francisco and clinching the NL West title.

Glaus, the 2002 World Series MVP for Anaheim, agreed Thursday to a \$45 million, four-year contract with Arizona.

Also on Thursday, the Dodgers signed Jeff Kent, late of the Houston Astros, to a two-year contract worth \$17 million.

Kent, 36, hit .289 with 27 homers and 107 RBIs last season and made the NL All-Star team for the fourth time. In 13 seasons, the 2000 NL MVP has a .289 career average with 302 homers and 1,207 RBIs.

Kent: Bonds' involvement isn't a shock

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Jeff Kent isn't shocked that San Francisco slugger Barry Bonds is the focus of baseball's steroid scandal.

"I won't get into specifics, but in general, I'm not surprised," Kent said when asked what he thought about Bonds' acknowledging, during grand jury testimony last year, that he used a substance he didn't know contained steroids.

"It's embarrassing that we've come to this point, where we have grand jury testimony coming out as evidence against some players," added Kent, Bonds' teammate for six seasons with the Giants.

"I think we all know that there was a problem, but I think we were all hesitant because we didn't know the real truth about the issue at hand — the steroid issue."

Bonds' testimony last year in the investigation of a steroid-distribution ring was leaked to the San Francisco Chronicle. The story came out one day after New York Yankees slugger Jason Giambi's testimony to that same grand jury was reported by the Chronicle.

"It's sad to see that there are still accusations and investigations. The integrity of the game has been hurt by this, and it's embarrassing to me as a player," said Kent, who signed a two-year, \$17 million contract Thursday with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

"It's embarrassing to baseball," Kent said. "We addressed it with the bargaining agreement a few years back. We needed to do something to fix it at that time, and obviously, I don't think we did a good enough job to fix it."

Bradley loses appeal of jail term

The Associated Press

CUYAHOGA FALLS, Ohio — The Ohio Supreme Court rejected former Cleveland Indians outfielder Milton Bradley's appeal of a three-day jail sentence he received for driving away from police who were trying to give him a speeding ticket.

Bradley, who now plays for the Los Angeles Dodgers, pleaded guilty earlier this year to a charge of obstructing official business, a second-degree misdemeanor, in the August 2003 incident. He was sentenced to three days in jail and 40 hours' community service and fined \$250.

Bradley's lawyer appealed the sentence, saying the offense did not merit jail time and would hurt Bradley professionally.

A new sentencing hearing was scheduled for Wednesday in Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court. The Supreme Court rejected hearing the appeal on Dec. 1.

Bradley's lawyer did not return



Briefs

a message seeking comment Friday.

The outfielder faces a Feb. 22 trial in Cuyahoga Falls Municipal Court on a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct stemming from a Nov. 25 arrest for interfering with someone else's traffic stop. Bradley, 26, has asked for a jury trial. If convicted, he could face 30 days in jail or a \$250 fine.

Bradley was suspended for five games in late September by Major League Baseball for slamming a plastic bottle into the front row at Dodger Stadium after he had thrown it onto the field.

Red Sox to carry World Series trophy to Maine

PORTLAND, Maine — The Boston Red Sox will bring their World Series trophy to Maine next week, and the team's repre-

sentatives are going to cover much more ground than originally envisioned.

Gov. John Baldacci announced Thursday that the Red Sox will visit Portland on Friday, Dec. 17. The following day the trophy will be taken on a road trip with stops in Presque Isle, Bangor and Augusta. The Red Sox were originally scheduled to come to Portland on Nov. 3, but the visit was postponed due to a scheduling conflict.

"It will be the largest rally Portland has ever seen," predicted Portland's marketing and communications manager, Liz Darling.

She helped plan the New England Patriots Super Bowl rally last April, which drew an estimated 45,000.

"We're anticipating this to be larger," she said.

The Red Sox won the World Series in October with a four-game sweep of the St. Louis Cardinals. It was Boston's first World Series title since 1918.

Living Offbase? Save \$\$ with our New Low Rates!

*Credit for new customers based on equivalent rate to US Existing Customers Please Call! E-Mail for New Rate Plan



*Ask for your FREE Personal 800 Number in the US for Friends and Family to call you only at your expense, and at low US rates.

*Ask for a FREE ONECARD Calling Card, which can be used in over 60 countries and, where permitted, over the DSN network, and save up to 90% over AT&T. *Cellphone calls at higher rate.

- ★ American Quality since 1994!
- ★ Fast, Easy Sign Up Anytime!
- ★ Credit Card/US Bank Debt!
- ★ Use with Cellular Phones!
- ★ Great Customer Service 24/7!

For more info or secure sign up:
www.milnet.net

CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS
Japan 00-531-13-0436
S.Korea 00-308-14-0025
E-mail info@milnet.net



NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division		Pct	GB
New York	7	11	5
Boston	7	11	3
Philadelphia	6	13	3 1/2
Toronto	6	13	3 1/2
New Jersey	5	13	4 1/2

Southeast Division		Pct	GB
Orlando	13	9	0
Miami	13	9	0
Atlanta	12	10	1
Charlotte	4	12	2
Washington	4	12	2

Central Division		Pct	GB
Cleveland	10	6	0
Detroit	10	6	0
Indiana	9	7	1 1/2
Milwaukee	5	11	3 1/2
Chicago	5	11	3 1/2

Western Conference

Southwest Division		Pct	GB
San Antonio	13	8	0
Dallas	13	8	0
Memphis	11	10	2 1/2
New Orleans	11	10	2 1/2

Northwest Division		Pct	GB
Seattle	12	6	0
Minnesota	12	6	0
Denver	9	9	3 1/2
Portland	9	9	3 1/2
Utah	8	10	4 1/2

Pacific Division		Pct	GB
Phoenix	3	8	0
Sacramento	11	7	2 1/2
Golden State	11	7	2 1/2
L.A. Lakers	9	9	5 1/2
San Diego	8	10	6 1/2

Thursday's games		Pct	GB
Houston 81, San Antonio 76			
Seattle 107, Dallas 102			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			

Friday's games		Pct	GB
Denver at Toronto			
New York at Washington			
New Orleans at New Jersey			
Atlanta at Chicago			
Atlanta at Detroit			
Sacramento at Minnesota			
Indiana at Milwaukee			
Sacramento at Phoenix			
Portland at Utah			

Saturday's games		Pct	GB
Golden State at New Jersey			
Detroit at Memphis			
San Antonio at Indiana			
Minnesota at Chicago			
Minnesota at Atlanta			
Boston at Seattle			
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers			

Sunday's games		Pct	GB
San Antonio at New York			
Miami at Toronto			
Washington at Washington			
Milwaukee at Philadelphia			
Utah at Portland			
Charlotte at Golden State			
Orlando at L.A. Lakers			

Thursday's games		Pct	GB
Rockets 81, Spurs 80			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			
Seattle 107, Dallas 102			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			

Friday's games		Pct	GB
Denver at Toronto			
New York at Washington			
New Orleans at New Jersey			
Atlanta at Chicago			
Atlanta at Detroit			
Sacramento at Minnesota			
Indiana at Milwaukee			
Sacramento at Phoenix			
Portland at Utah			

Saturday's games		Pct	GB
Golden State at New Jersey			
Detroit at Memphis			
San Antonio at Indiana			
Minnesota at Chicago			
Minnesota at Atlanta			
Boston at Seattle			
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers			

Sunday's games		Pct	GB
San Antonio at New York			
Miami at Toronto			
Washington at Washington			
Milwaukee at Philadelphia			
Utah at Portland			
Charlotte at Golden State			
Orlando at L.A. Lakers			

Thursday's games		Pct	GB
Rockets 81, Spurs 80			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			
Seattle 107, Dallas 102			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			

Friday's games		Pct	GB
Denver at Toronto			
New York at Washington			
New Orleans at New Jersey			
Atlanta at Chicago			
Atlanta at Detroit			
Sacramento at Minnesota			
Indiana at Milwaukee			
Sacramento at Phoenix			
Portland at Utah			

Saturday's games		Pct	GB
Golden State at New Jersey			
Detroit at Memphis			
San Antonio at Indiana			
Minnesota at Chicago			
Minnesota at Atlanta			
Boston at Seattle			
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers			

Sunday's games		Pct	GB
San Antonio at New York			
Miami at Toronto			
Washington at Washington			
Milwaukee at Philadelphia			
Utah at Portland			
Charlotte at Golden State			
Orlando at L.A. Lakers			

Thursday's games		Pct	GB
Rockets 81, Spurs 80			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			
Seattle 107, Dallas 102			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			

Friday's games		Pct	GB
Denver at Toronto			
New York at Washington			
New Orleans at New Jersey			
Atlanta at Chicago			
Atlanta at Detroit			
Sacramento at Minnesota			
Indiana at Milwaukee			
Sacramento at Phoenix			
Portland at Utah			

Saturday's games		Pct	GB
Golden State at New Jersey			
Detroit at Memphis			
San Antonio at Indiana			
Minnesota at Chicago			
Minnesota at Atlanta			
Boston at Seattle			
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers			

Sunday's games		Pct	GB
San Antonio at New York			
Miami at Toronto			
Washington at Washington			
Milwaukee at Philadelphia			
Utah at Portland			
Charlotte at Golden State			
Orlando at L.A. Lakers			

Thursday's games		Pct	GB
Rockets 81, Spurs 80			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			
Seattle 107, Dallas 102			
San Antonio 86, Boston 87			

Friday's games		Pct	GB
Denver at Toronto			
New York at Washington			
New Orleans at New Jersey			
Atlanta at Chicago			
Atlanta at Detroit			
Sacramento at Minnesota			
Indiana at Milwaukee			
Sacramento at Phoenix			
Portland at Utah			

Saturday's games		Pct	GB
Golden State at New Jersey			
Detroit at Memphis			
San Antonio at Indiana			
Minnesota at Chicago			
Minnesota at Atlanta			
Boston at Seattle			
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers			

Sunday's games		Pct	GB
San Antonio at New York			
Miami at Toronto			
Washington at Washington			
Milwaukee at Philadelphia			
Utah at Portland			
Charlotte at Golden State			
Orlando at L.A. Lakers			

McGrady's raw boosts Rockets against Spurs

The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Tracy McGrady was racing down the court with the ball, his eyes focused squarely on the basket and the fate of the game in his hands.

No way he was going to settle for a tie and overtime. McGrady was thinking about making a game-winning three-pointer the whole time.

"I wanted to take my chances," McGrady said. "At that point, I felt anything I threw up was going to go in. The rim felt really, really big."

So McGrady let fly with a running three with 1.7 seconds left, capping a one-man rally in the final minute to send the Houston Rockets to an improbable 81-80 win over San Antonio on Thursday night.

McGrady scored 13 points in the final 35 seconds, including four difficult throws, to finish with 33 points, eight rebounds and five steals in a terrific clutch performance.

"It was unbelievable," said Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, shaking his head. "End of story. Guys get hot."

The sleepy-eyed, 25-year-old All-Star put on a virtuoso finish that rivaled any of the top last-second efforts in the league record books.

McGrady's amazing display inevitably brought back memories of Reggie Miller's career-defining moment against the New York Knicks in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference semifinals in 1995. Miller scored eight

straight points in the final 8.9 seconds of Indiana's 107-105 win.

Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy, an assistant coach for the Knicks then, was even stunned for a comparison to McGrady's fourth-quarter flourish.

"Sometimes when you, you get miracles," he said.

McGrady was mobbed by teammates near midcourt, while red-and-white confetti poured from the roof. The Spurs watched the celebration then walked off the court in stunned silence.

"I swear, I've never been a part of anything like that," McGrady said. "That was like the best feeling to me, just to have my teammates embrace me and just jumping on me like that. That was a great feeling."

Then, he smiled.

"For all those fans who left the game early ... ya'll missed a great game," he said.

SuperSonics 107, Mavericks 102: At Dallas, Rashard Lewis refused to let Seattle give away a game it had dominated.

The small forward erased a fourth-quarter deficit then protected the lead with a high-flying baseline dunk, a three-pointer as the shot clock expired and two free throws with 18.5 seconds to go.

One night after becoming the first team this season to win in San Antonio, Seattle won its fourth straight and eighth in 10 games to reclaim the NBA's best record at 17-3.

Trail Blazers 89, Celtics 87: Shaheed Abdul-Rahim hit a buzzer-beating

three-pointer to lead the Trail Blazers to a dramatic victory.

Boston led 87-84 with 29.3 seconds left, but Zach Randolph made two free throws to make it a one-point game. After letting time run down, the Celtics' Gary Payton tried to get the ball in to Paul Pierce, but the shot-clock expired and led Portland with one final chance to win.

Abdur-Rahim caught an outlet pass from Derek Anderson, set up from 25 feet and drilled the winning shot.

Brown refused to join a team huddle after the coach Eddie Jordan berated him and the rest of the team for a poor defensive series in the second quarter of Wednesday's 111-105 loss to the Nuggets.

Jordan benched Brown for the rest of the game and was excused from Thursday's practice.

Brown will miss Friday's game against the New York Knicks.

Nuggets' White suspended
NEW YORK — Denver Nuggets forward Rodney White was suspended without pay for one game by the NBA on Thursday for pleading guilty to unlawful possession of a weapon.

He will miss Friday's game against the Toronto Raptors.

White pleaded guilty to two weapons charges Tuesday in Washington, D.C., and agreed to 100 hours of community service. A third charge was dropped.

NBA stays a way from hearing

By CHRIS SHERIDAN

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Along one side of a rectangular conference table were at least a half-dozen chairs set up for the NBA's legal delegation.

For more than six hours, they sat empty.

One of the strangest grievance hearings in NBA history unfolded Thursday at a Manhattan law office that just three blocks from league headquarters, with arbitrator Roger Kaplan hearing arguments on the brawl-related suspensions issued by Commissioner David Stern.

The NBA, contending the arbitrator had no jurisdiction, declined to participate and made no public comment after the proceeding.

From the league's perspective, the empty chairs said it all.

Stern, citing a clause in the collective bargaining agreement giving him sole authority to impose discipline for on-court behavior, suspended Artest for the remainder of the season, Jackson for 30 games, O'Neal for 25 games and Johnson for five — for their roles in a Nov. 19 brawl in the Indiana Pacers' game at Detroit.

The union contends the penal-

ties were excessive and asked for a "significant" reduction in each of the players' suspensions.

Kaplan must issue two rulings — whether he had jurisdiction to hear a grievance, as well as the actual grievance itself. If he were to rule in favor of the union on both counts, the players would likely sue in federal court to have Kaplan's judgment enforced.

The NBA has already filed suit against the union and the four players in the U.S. District Court in Manhattan, contending they are pursuing a grievance before an arbitrator who has no authority to intervene.

That lawsuit remains pending, with the league having decided earlier this week not to seek a temporary restraining order that might have prevented Thursday's hearing from going forward.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Kaplan said he would try to issue a ruling before the latter part of next week, though he made no promises.

Owner Gund in 'serious' talks to sell Cavaliers

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Gordon Gund is about to hit another NBA lottery.

The Cleveland Cavaliers' owner is involved in "serious" negotiations to sell the franchise that has risen from the league's basement to

unprecedented popularity since the arrival of star LeBron James.

Gund, who bought the Cavaliers in 1983 for \$20 million, may soon sell them to Michigan businessman Dan Gilbert for a reported \$375 million.

The Cavaliers' turnaround began on May 22, 2003, when a ping-pong ball bounced their way in the league's draft lottery and they won the rights to draft James.

With him, the Cavaliers have been soaring ever since.

On Thursday night, Gund released a statement saying the sale was possible.

"We are engaged in serious negotiations to sell the Cleveland Cavaliers to a new principal owner," Gund said. "A potential buyer is presently verifying information about the Cavaliers. If matters go forward beyond this stage, we will enter into a formal contract subject to NBA approval."

Team spokesman Tad Carpenter said the team would have no further comment.

Citing unidentified sources, the

New York Daily News reported that Gilbert was the potential buyer. Gilbert is chief executive of Livonia, Mich.-based Quicken Loans, the nation's largest online retail mortgage lender. He previously tried to buy the Milwaukee Brewers.

Wizards bench Brown
WASHINGTON — The Washington Wizards suspended Kwame Brown for one game Thursday for his actions during the previous night's game against Denver.

Brown refused to join a team huddle after the coach Eddie Jordan berated him and the rest of the team for a poor defensive series in the second quarter of Wednesday's 111-105 loss to the Nuggets.

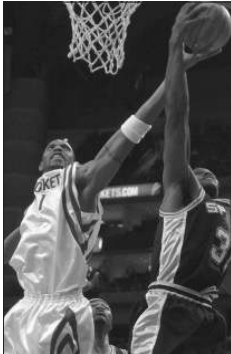
Jordan benched Brown for the rest of the game and was excused from Thursday's practice.

Brown will miss Friday's game against the New York Knicks.

Nuggets' White suspended
NEW YORK — Denver Nuggets forward Rodney White was suspended without pay for one game by the NBA on Thursday for pleading guilty to unlawful possession of a weapon.

He will miss Friday's game against the Toronto Raptors.

White pleaded guilty to two weapons charges Tuesday in Washington, D.C., and agreed to 100 hours of community service. A third charge was dropped.

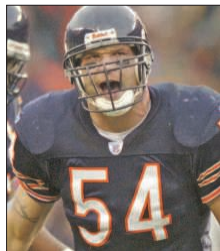


AP

SPORTS



Seventh-ranked UConn suffers first loss on last-second layup at Massachusetts, Page 42



AP

Four-time Pro Bowler Brian Urlacher, above, said, "I like being out there with my teammates, I love practicing, I love being in the locker room. It's just, football is fun."

Urlacher draws comparisons with Butkus, Singletary

BY RICK GANO
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — During the summer before he went away to college at New Mexico, Brian Urlacher worked pipeline construction — 12-hour shifts in 100-degree heat for 57 an hour.

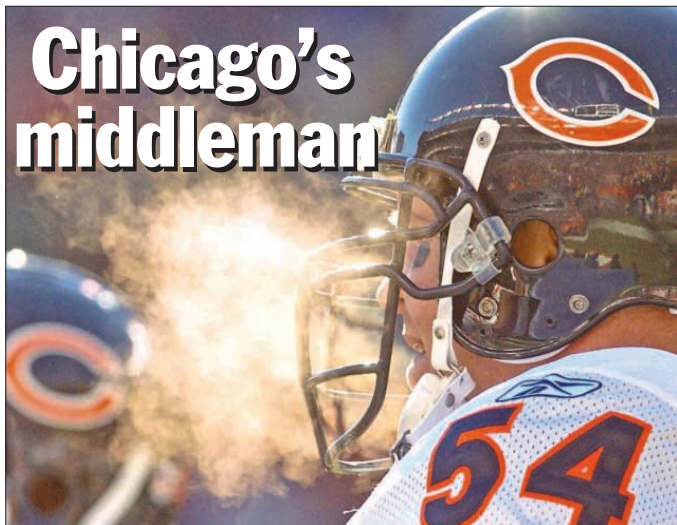
Those long days of toil developed a toughness that hasn't wavered, even years later when Urlacher plays for millions as the middle linebacker of the Chicago Bears.

When his left calf swelled up like two grapefruits after a game Nov. 14, his foot went numb in the middle of the night and he needed surgery at 5 a.m. to relieve pressure from internal bleeding, doctors told him he'd be out 4-6 weeks.

Less than three weeks later, Urlacher was back on the field, playing his best game of the season: running side to side with a fury; intercepting a pass inside the 5-yard line; breaking up another pass; and making a sack among his 11 tackles to push the Bears to victory over the Minnesota Vikings last Sunday.

"It just healed better than they thought it could, I guess. I really don't know how to explain it," Urlacher said.

There is no need to explain just how much better the Bears are with Urlacher than without him. It's so obvious.



AP

Bears middle linebacker Brian Urlacher (54) has been selected to the Pro Bowl in each of his first four seasons. He's missed only four games in his NFL career — all Chicago losses and all of them this season. The Bears are 5-3 this season with him in the lineup.

Chicago is 5-3 when he's on the field, calling the defensive signals and inspiring his teammates to measure up. When he's been out this season — also missing two games with a hamstring injury that cost him the entire preseason — they're 0-4.

"When we are out on the field and it's a pressure situation, he will come out and

start joking around with you and let us know, 'Hey, it's a game and let's just do what we do,'" second-year linebacker Lance Briggs said.

"When he's not there, you feel like you have to be so much more sound. And when he's there, you have a guy who is going to make plays."



Linebacker Brian Urlacher (left), taking down Vikings QB Daunte Culpepper last Sunday, has 26½ sacks in 72 NFL games.

KRT

As a college safety and linebacker with speed and offensive skills, Urlacher was taken by the Bears in the first round of the 2000 draft out of New Mexico, one of the few colleges to show interest in him.

And after moving to middle linebacker in the third game of his rookie season, he's become an instant hit on and off the field. He was the 2000 Defensive Rookie of the Year.

He is now the face of the Bears, being talked about with great linebackers Dick Butkus and Mike Singletary. His No. 54 jersey has been one of the NFL's top sellers. He's made the Pro Bowl in each of his four seasons, a span in which he never missed a game because of injury.

That changed this year when he hurt his hamstring in the first practice of training camp, meaning he's spent a lot of the season rounding into shape while battling two injuries.

Urlacher has five sacks and one interception. He's also forced two fumbles, num-

SEE MIDDLEMAN ON PAGE 45

McGrady scores 13 points in final 35 seconds to lead Houston to a one-point victory over San Antonio

Page 47



NHLPA President
Bob Goodenow



NHL Commissioner
Gary Bettman

NHL players offer to cut all salaries by 24 percent Page 43



Heisman finalist Peterson has stiff-armed all of the hype

Page 41

